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OECS: 'Regional Solidarity' on Banana Exports

FL2711141789 Bridgetown CANA in English
1825 GMT 25 Nov 89

[By Ernie Seon]

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Nov 25, CANA— Heads of government of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States [OECS] ended their 16th summit in Castries Friday reporting regional solidarity on the issue of banana exports to Europe.

They said they were now assured of full support from all Caribbean Community states in their efforts to protect their banana exports at the current negotiations between Europe and developing countries in Brussels.

The OECS comprises seven of the 13 members of Caricom. OECS Chairman Lester Bird on Friday expressed concern that at least one unnamed Caricom state appeared to be wavering in its support for the OECS in its effort to persuade the European Community [EEC] to recognise an agreement with the Dominican Republic about access to the European market.

Officials here said the OECS and the Dominican Republic have agreed that the Dominican Republic not access the EEC banana market and the traditional suppliers would therefore have priority, in exchange for sub-regional support for the Dominican Republic's move to gain entry to the Lome Trade and Aid Convention linking the EEC and developing nations in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific [ACP].

Bird said that failure to recognise the agreement would have a "catastrophic" effect on the Windward Islands banana industry and on the economy of the OECS.

"After making contact Friday with the Caricom governments and the outgoing ACP secretary general, we are now optimistic that we have full support," Bird said.

"In addition, we have had a report from the Europeans Friday which indicates that they are sticking to the fact that they have given a commitment to give the traditional banana suppliers priority," Bird added.

"To be fair to the Dominican Republic, they have stuck to the agreement, but the problem we have is to persuade the Europeans that this agreement should in some way be recognised in the actual agreement protocol under Lome that is being signed," Bird explained.

The OECS chairman said they were aware that some bureaucrats would wish to leave it out because they say they have stated elsewhere that the traditional supplier would have priority. "We are saying that is not enough, we want it recognised somewhere in the agreement," Bird said.

He said that the OECS is satisfied that it has the support of the Pacific states and the OECS delegation at the negotiations in lobbying the Africans. Bird said that although most of the African states are not banana producers the OECS is seeking solidarity on this issue, which is vital to the survival of the OECS.

"We are part of one currency region, and what pulls one down will pull us all down, so we have to begin from the position where the Caribbean has solidarity on the issue," he said.

The OECS banana producers are St Vincent, St Lucia, Grenada and Dominica. Antigua and Barbuda, St Kitts and Nevis, and Montserrat are also OECS members.

OECS on Constitutional Changes in Montserrat

FL2711145189 Bridgetown CANA in English
1858 GMT 25 Nov 89

[By Ernie Seon]

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Nov 25, CANA— Heads of government of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States [OECS] have called on Britain to reconsider major changes to the Constitution of Montserrat, a colony. They complained that the move would give the British Governor of the island a degree of autocratic power.

In a strongly worded statement issued at the end of their two-day summit here, the OECS leaders described the plan for Montserrat as "dictatorial and repugnant."

They urged that the fullest consultation be held with all groups and the general public in Montserrat and the wider Caribbean, so as to ensure that the constitutional status of Montserrat is not retarded and the right to self-determination of the people of Montserrat is maintained.

The statement which has since been handed to the British Government representative in Castries for onpass to the UK, said that the heads have learnt with grave concern of the new constitutional order which the British Government has "unilaterally drafted" and intends to impose upon the government and people of Montserrat in December 1989.

It said that the OECS leaders were mindful of the special relationship and integral links which exist between Montserrat and the other members of the OECS by virtue of their adherence to the Treaty of Basseterre, the agreement establishing the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank and the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court.

"Against this background, we considered the Constitution order and found it absolutely repugnant," the statement said.

The leaders concluded that it amounted to a retrograde step in the constitutional position of the people of Montserrat.

"The order deprives the people of Montserrat of the right to exercise their free will through a government duly elected in accordance with democratic processes and principles," they said.

Montserrat has enjoyed an advanced Constitution since 1962, when the ministerial system of government was introduced.

"Indeed the order rejects the authority vested in the elected members of the legislative council and accords to the British Government representative a degree of autocratic power that smacks of the worst forms of colonialism," the OECS heads charged.

The statement said that as the 1990's dawn in a world in which self-determination is an accepted right of the people everywhere, heads of government are disturbed by the serious implications of this constitutional order.

"Our concern stems not only for the development and aspirations of the people of the non-independent Caribbean states, but also for the Caribbean as a whole," they explained.

"In this connection heads of government call upon the British Government to reconsider the imposition of the proposed Constitution and urge that the fullest consultation be held with all groups and the general public of Montserrat, and the wider Caribbean in order to ensure that the constitutional status of Montserrat is not retarded and the right to self determination of the people of Montserrat is maintained," they said.

Cuba

Electronics Agreement Signed With USSR

FL2711142689 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1330 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Soviet Electronics Industry Minister Vladislav Kolesnikov ended his activities in Cuba with the signing of a cooperation agreement between Cuba and the USSR on the development of the microelectronics industry in our country. The document primarily contains plans to expand and modernize the Ernesto Che Guevara electronic component factory in Pinar del Rio Province. The agreement also includes technical assistance to manufacture integrated circuits for keyboards and video terminals. The agreement was signed by the Soviet minister and Pedro Miret Prieto, a member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba.

During his stay in our country, Kolesnikov also signed a bilateral protocol for the development of new facilities to manufacture integrated circuits for medical equipment. The Soviet electronics industry minister ratified his willingness to accelerate the microelectronics programs in our country, and he said Cuba's potential in this area is positive.

Cape Verde President Continues Official Visit

Castro, Pereira Begin Talks

FL2711185689 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Report by Alexis Sotolongo]

[Text] The official talks between the delegations of Cape Verde and Cuba are currently taking place at the headquarters of the Council of State. The delegations are presided over by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and Aristides Pereira, president of the Republic of Cape Verde and general secretary of the African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde.

Prior to the start of the talks, the illustrious visitor, accompanied by Commander of the Revolution Juan Almeida Bosque, laid a floral wreath at the Jose Marti Monument in Revolution Square. Last night, Comrade Pereira held a moving meeting with Cuban internationalist combatants who participated in the fight for the liberation of Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde. This afternoon, the African leader and his delegation plan an extensive tour of the capital, including visits to the genetic engineering and biotechnology center, the cardiac center of the William Soler Hospital, and other places of economic and social interest.

Pereira Praises Internationalists

FL2711132089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] The President of the Republic of Cape Verde, Aristides Pereira, last night met with a group of Cuban internationalists who contributed to the liberation of Cape Verde and Guinea Bissau.

[Begin recording] [Pereira, in Portuguese with simultaneous Spanish translation] We know the difficulties that are being faced here, and because of this, we admire even more the brave attitude that seems to us to be the only one we can adopt at this time. I think that there is every reason for the comrades here, the internationalist combatants, to feel proud, content, and convinced that all their sacrificies were not in vain. I would like to congratulate you on all your victories, which are also ours. [applause] [end recording]

Tours Construction Project

FL2811041589 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] Aristides Pereira, president of the Republic of Cape Verde and general secretary of the African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde, this afternoon toured various places of scientific and social interest in the capital. He was accompanied by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro.

The first place the Cape Verde president visited was the Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology Center. He was received there by Manuel Limonta, director of the center, who gave him an extensive briefing on the latest scientific achievements. Among the achievements, he emphasized the production of human epidermic growth factor and the production of B and C antimeningococcic vaccine.

Another one of the places Aristides and Fidel visited was the Guinera social minibrigade which is located in a suburb of the capital. There, the two presidents chatted with the minibrigade workers. The workers explained to the leaders that 3 buildings with 49 apartments have been completed for the residents of the area.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker introducing various persons in group of workers] She is the comrade director of the projects. The other comrade is the secretary of the youth group. She is in charge of the technical part of the project.

[Castro] She is the chief of this whole project. How many people do you have working here?

[Chief of the project] At present, Commander, we have 450 men.

[Castro, interrupting] Men and women, right?

[Chief] Yes, men and women.

[Castro] What is this? Have you turned everyone into men? [laughter]

[Chief] No, not at all. We have 219 women, and the rest are men.

[Castro] How many apartments are you building?

[Chief] Commander, at present, we have completed 49 apartments in 3 buildings. We have 92 other apartments to complete by the end of this (?year).

[Castro] How many are under construction?

[Chief] We are building 11 buildings, 222...

[Castro, interrupting] With the people you now have you can build faster. Are you building a school or a child care center here?

[Chief] We already have the child care center over there at the entrance.

[Castro] Where are the stores?

[Chief] They are on the bottom floor of the buildings. We are building areas for services such as pharmacies, beauty shops, etc.

[Castro] How is the construction of the cafeteria coming?

[Chief] Very well, Commander.

[Castro] Are you getting your supplies?

[Chief] We get a lot of them.

[Castro] [Video shows terrace of apartment] What have you invented over there? What have you put there?

[Chief] We have used a small design on it.

[Castro] Are you going to leave it that color, or are you going to use cement paint?

[Chief] We are going to use cement paint.

[Video shows Castro, Pereira, construction chief and workers going into dining room]

[Chief] We have a school table where eight minibrigade workers sit [words indistinct]. When the minibrigade workers come to the table, we have two comrades who serve their food.

[Video shows Castro and delegation back outside with workers]

[Construction chief, addressing one of two young women in group] She is the youth secretary.

[Castro] So they have taken away her technical job, and now she has a political job.

[Chief] No. She simply does both jobs.

[Castro, addressing one of the young women] You are an architect and she is an engineer, right? [video shows the young women nodding their heads without speaking]

[Castro, addressing chief] Are they from Havana, or where are they from?

[Chief] Yes, they are from Havana.

[Castro] Are both of them from Havana?

[Chief] Yes, they both are from Havana.

[Castro] What about their parents, where are they from?

[First unidentified speaker] They are from here.

[Castro] They are the kind that were born here.

[First unidentified speaker] Yes.

[Castro] Do you have a lot of work? How many hours do you work? [words indistinct] When did you graduate?

[First unidentified speaker] I graduated in 1984.

[Castro] And you, when did you graduate?

[Second unidentified speaker] I graduated this year.

[Castro] This year! How have things gone here? What does your boyfriend say about all this?

[Second unidentified speaker] My husband.

[Castro] And what does your husband say about all this?

[Second unidentified speaker] He has come to do volunteer work. [end recording]

Afterward, Aristides and Fidel visited the family doctor clinic No 2 in Los Pinos. There, they were welcomed by Dr (Fermin Robaina), who explained to them that the infant mortality rate in that area is zero.

Aldana Heads Delegation to Tripartite Talks

FL2711144389 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1400 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] The members of the Tripartite Commission for peace in southwestern Africa today expressed their satisfaction with the success of the general elections in Namibia and they welcomed the assembly's deputies. The new round of talks of the joint commission, comprised of Angola, Cuba, and South Africa, began today in the (Sambonani) Hotel in Hazyview, which is in the eastern part of the Transvaal.

The tripartite meeting is attended by deputies Theo-Ben Gurirab and Peter Mweshihange, representatives of the Namibian legislature and members of the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO; and Andrew Matjila of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance. SWAPO won 41 of the 72 seats in the assembly.

The Cuban delegation is presided over by Carlos Aldana, secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba.

Rodriguez Presides Over Economists' Meeting

FL2711140089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1330 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] The third congress of Cuban economists concluded yesterday at Havana's Palace of Conventions after 2 days of intense discussions. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], presided over the closing ceremony. The meeting of the National Association of Cuban Economists was attended by 540 delegates and 300 guests.

[Begin recording] [Lionel Soto, PCC Central Committee member] I think we all have the impression that this has been a great meeting, a good meeting. [end recording]

On behalf of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, Comrade Lionel Soto conveyed a message of greetings and a request:

[Begin Soto recording] He has asked us to convey his congratulations and his wishes that you multiply your activities in favor of the tasks of the revolution and in favor of the construction and defense of socialism. [end recording]

The participants at the meeting approved the paper on ethics and the current economic situation in Cuba. The final declaration was read by Luis Cardet, new president of the National Association of Cuban Economists, who outlined the principal tasks of the economists in an exclusive interview.

[Begin Cardet recording] The most important task is to remain loyal to our principles, to the construction of socialism, to the guidance given by the PCC and our commander in chief, to strengthen and develop the science of economics in its application, to work for economic efficiency in all our enterprise management efforts in order to survive in the complex world we are currently facing, and to continue developing the national economy. [end recording]

Antigua and Barbuda

Convention Reelects Heath as Opposition Leader

FL2711191389 Bridgetown CANA in English 1806 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] St John's, Antigua, Nov 27, CANA— Medical surgeon Dr Ivor Heath was re-elected un-opposed as political leader of the opposition United National Democratic Party (UNDP) at the party's convention on Sunday.

Former government minister Donald Halstead, who is studying law in England, had been nominated to oppose Heath but party sources said he called in to decline the nomination.

However, the UNDP has a new chairman in businessman George Pigott. Pigott replaces Wilmouth Daniel, who did not stand for re-election. Accountant Len Johnson was retained as secretary general while Ralph Francis is the treasurer.

"We were concentrating mainly on re-organising the party's base and the thrust forward. A tremendous effort is needed in the setting up of branches in the constituencies," an official of the party told CANA.

He said that the issue of electoral reform was also addressed in light of the government's intention to hold discussion on the subject with a view for possible changes.

"Some serious action is needed because of our experiences," he added, citing the irregularities that marred the March 9 general elections here.

Bahamas

Ruling Party Wins by 'Landslide' in By-Election

FL2711133189 Bridgetown CANA in English 1512 GMT 25 Nov 89

[Text] Nassau, the Bahamas, Nov 25, CANA— The ruling Progressive Liberal Party [PLP] on Friday won a landslide victory in a by-election in the remote Crooked Island constituency.

Preliminary figures from 12 of the 13 polling stations gave the PLP candidate, Dr. Frank Walkine, 305 votes to the 99 for Basil Kelly of the main opposition Free National

Movement [FNM]. Elrick Penn of the Christian Citizens Group was said to have received only one vote.

The Crooked Island seat was left vacant after the former representative, Wilbert Moss of the PLP, was sent to prison for offering a drug court magistrate a 10,000 U.S. dollar advantage to drop a constituent's case.

Moss was parliamentary secretary in the office of Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling when he was arrested.

In the fight for the seat, the FNM charged the government with improper use of public funds and intimidation. Orville Turnquest, deputy leader of the FNM, said that the government was using public funds to fight the PLP party's election campaign. He said that this amounted to an almost criminal act.

Government officials were said to have promised the remote island district roads and running water. The district has a total of 531 registered voters. The people earn their living mostly through fishing, farming and harvesting cascarilla bark, which is used to make a liquor.

The PLP has 31 seats in the 49-member House of Assembly, the FNM 16, and Independents 2.

Barbados

Sandiford Responds to Criticism Over Economy

FL2711150689 Bridgetown CANA in English
1404 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Nov 27, CANA— Barbados Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford and cabinet colleagues of his ruling Democratic Labour Party [DLP] have rebuffed opposition critics who paint a bleak picture of the local economy. Sandiford, who was addressing a public meeting of his party here Sunday night, said that it was out of "jealousy" that the opposition parties criticised his management of the economy. He said most of the economic indicators point in the right direction, according to press reports.

Attorney General Maurice King told the meeting of plans for major capital works projects covering the police, the fire department, post office and a BDS20 million dollar court complex (one BDS dollar = 50 U.S. cents).

Sandiford, responding to criticism of frequent travelling by cabinet ministers, said it was crucial to Barbados' economic interest and at any rate travel this year would not exceed that of 1985—the last calender year the Barbados Labour Party was in power. The prime minister promised that in due course he would expose those persons who wrote an international lending institution alleging that Barbados' economy was facing disaster.

"Tonight is our declaration of war; we have given the enemies of the people a lot of rope," the daily NATION reported Transport and Works Minister Don Blackman as telling the meeting. "But the moment has come when this government must show its obligation to speak the truth," Blackman declared.

The DLP came to power for a five-year term in 1986.

Trinidad and Tobago

Robinson Seeks Dialogue With Labor Movement

FL2711185789 Bridgetown CANA in English
1442 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Nov 27, CANA— Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson wants the trade union movement to return to his consultatory planning body, the National Planning Commission (NPC). Labour walked out from the NPC earlier this year claiming their opinions were not being heeded.

"I hope that members of the labour movement will soon return to continue the useful dialogue in which they were engaged in the commission before, regrettably, they decided to terminate their activities," Robinson told the annual convention of his ruling National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR) on Sunday.

"The government places a great deal of emphasis on constructive dialogue with all sections of the national community and particularly with the labour movement.

"However, it must be remembered that the overall responsibility for decision-making rests with the government which was elected to govern and which is fully accountable to the population at the end of its five-year term of office, when it shall be returned," Robinson told applauding party members.

Citing one example of how his administration's polices had worked, Robinson said the restructuring of state enterprises had been accompanied by restructuring of the public debt.

These measures, he said, had allowed some TT400 million dollars (one TT dollar = 23.5 U.S. cents) to be released for imports in 1988, over one billion dollars this year.

"And we expected to release over two billion dollars from 1990 to 1992 by restructuring of the public debt," the Trinidad leader said.

Office for Mexicans in U.S. To Be Created

PA2411194489 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] In accordance with presidential instructions, the Mexican Government will create a department in the Foreign Secretariat that will take care of and monitor matters affecting the status of Mexicans living in the United States.

Mexican Foreign Secretary Fernando Solana made that announcement before a group of experts in Mexican-U.S. relations that included local university experts and representatives of political, social, and cultural groups in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Solana legalized the signing of a cooperation agreement with the law school of the local Albuquerque University. The agreement includes the training of Mexican Foreign Ministry lawyers in U.S. law.

Government Condemns El Salvador Killings

PA2411145689 Mexico City THE NEWS in English 18 Nov 89 p 4

[Text] On 17 November Mexico bitterly condemned the assassination of six Jesuit priests in El Salvador on 16 November, said a communique issued by the Secretariat of Foreign Relations (SRE).

The SRE communique stated that President Carlos Salinas de Gortari's administration also expresses its consternation and profound concern about the current situation in that Central American nation.

"What has recently occurred in El Salvador proves the urgent need for a cease-fire and the beginning of direct talks in search of peace, as has been called for by other Central American nations in the Esquipulas and Tela peace accords," said the release.

Government To Send Aid to El Salvador

FL2411155989 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0327 GMT 24 Nov 89

[Text] Mexico City, 23 Nov (NOTIMEX)—The Mexican Secretariat of Foreign Relations has reiterated the Mexican Government's concern about the bloodshed and the atmosphere of violence in El Salvador, and it has urged the parties concerned to return to the path of dialogue and agreement.

In a communique, the Foreign Secretariat conveys Mexico's call to the Central American nations to meet again to promote and strengthen dialogue and conciliation within the framework of the Esquipulas and Tela agreements.

The communique states that Mexico will supply medical assistance and food to the Salvadoran people through the Red Cross to mitigate the serious consequences of this conflict.

The communique adds that the 2 weeks of serious fighting have not been instrumental in creating either the conditions or the atmosphere conducive to resumption of the dialogue that began in Mexico and Costa Rica.

The Mexican Government states that the serious political situation in El Salvador is a cause for great concern by Latin America from both a regional and a humanitarian standpoint.

Costa Rica

Arias Seeks Site Change for Regional Meeting

PA2811002789 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2135 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] San Jose, 27 Nov (ACAN - EFE)—President Oscar Arias blamed the Cuban Government today for the crisis between El Salvador and Nicaragua, and he asked his Central American counterparts to meet on 8 - 9 November, but not in Managua as had been scheduled.

In a written statement, Arias argued that the "deterioration" in relations between El Salvador and Nicaragua, and Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani's refusal to attend the meeting scheduled to be held in Managua, make it necessary "for us to find a new site for our meeting as soon as possible."

"The events in the past few days seem to point to the direct and destabilizing intervention in El Salvador by governments of the region supported by Cuba," Arias added in the statement that was sent to his Central American counterparts.

The presidential statement was released to the press by Information Minister Jorge Urbina, who said that Guatemala and Costa Rica have been proposed as sites of the meeting, although he did not rule out that the summit could be held "in other Latin American countries."

El Salvador suspended diplomatic and trade relations with Nicaragua as a result of the seizure of military supplies that were allegedly sent by Managua to the guerrillas on a plane that crashed in Salvadoran territory.

Arias urged the Central American governments, particularly the Nicaraguan Government, "to strictly abide by the Esquipulas agreements."

The Costa Rican president is considered one of the main promoters of the Central American peace agreements, known as the Esquipulas II agreements, which were signed by the region's presidents in 1987.

In his statement, President Arias expressed "firm and resolute support for President Alfredo Cristiani," although the Costa Rican president believes that the suspension of relations with Nicaragua "is an obstacle to dialogue and understanding in Central America." He also asked the Salvadoran Government and guerrillas to agree on a cease-fire "for humanitarian reasons" and to hold negotiations. He also "vehemently" asked that "they respect the civilian population, not involving it in armed actions."

Minister Urbina said Arias spoke with Cristiani last night. Urbina added that until now "there has been no reply" from the area's presidents to the proposal not to meet in Managua.

Government Protests Nicaraguan Phone Tapping

PA2711234489 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 17 Nov 89 p 4-A

[Report by Mauricio Martinez S.]

[Text] Two "energetic protests" over tapped telephones and damage to cars belonging to our embassy in Managua have been presented to the Sandinist government by the Arias administration.

This information was supplied on 16 November by Acting Foreign Minister Carlos Rivera Bianchini, who said that the notes were presented a few days ago by Costa Rican Ambassador Dr. Fayid Ayales Esna.

In an interview with LA NACION, Ayales confirmed on 31 October that the Nicaraguan General Directorate of State Security was spying on him.

Following instructions by the Costa Rican foreign minister, Ayales requested a "quick and thorough" investigation, Rivera said.

LA NACION ascertained that on 8 November our government protested telephone taps and recordings of several officials belonging to the Costa Rican legation.

The other protest note—delivered on 25 October—referred to body damage the previous day to two vehicles by several hoodlums who used brake fluid and excrement. One of the cars was at the Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport and the other was in the mission's garage. In both cases, the government invoked the protection that legations and diplomatic representatives are entitled to under the Vienna Convention.

Demands were made to find and punish those guilty for the reported actions.

On Ambassador Ayales' case, Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal admitted—in mid-October—to analyzing "some unsigned notes" from the Nicaraguan Government accusing the diplomat of meddling in political matters. Madrigal felt the notes were not official.

These documents were handed to President Oscar Arias by Commander Jaime Wheelock, agricultural development and agrarian reform minister, during a meeting at the Inter-American Institute for Agricultural Cooperation.

Taiwan Vice Minister of Economic Affairs Visits

OW2411030589 Taipei CNA in English 1036 GMT 23 Nov 89

[Text] Panama City, Nov. 22 (CNA)—Vice Minister of Economic Affairs of the Republic of China [ROC] Chiang Pin-kun arrived in Costa Rica Wednesday afternoon for the meeting of ROC commercial officials stationed in Latin America.

He was warmly greeted at the airport by ROC Ambassador Shao Hsioh-kwen, officials of the ROC Embassy,

participants of the meeting, Costa Rican Government officials and overseas Chinese leaders.

Chiang will preside over the meeting, to be held Nov. 23-24 in San Jose. It will discuss ways to promote the ROC's economic relations and technical cooperations with Latin America countries as well as investment problems in this part of the world.

Many other ROC officials also arrived in Costa Rica on the same day for the same purpose. They are Hsu Ko-sheng, director genenral of the Board of Foreign Trade, Ni Chang-i, director of the Industrial Development and Investment Center of the Economics Ministry, and Liu Tin-tsu, secretary general of the China External Trade Development Council.

Vice Minister Chiang will pay a courtesy call on Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Thursday and meet with Costa Rican Economics Minister Antonio Burgues Teran and acting Minister of Foreign Trade Edgar Brenes Friday.

Ambassador Shao hosted a welcome party at his residence Wednesday evening in honor of Vice Minister Chiang and the other participants of the meeting.

El Salvador

Government Requests UN Security Council Meeting

PA2711182889 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1720 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] United Nations, 27 Nov (EFE)—The Salvadoran Government today requested that the UN Security Council hold an "urgent" meeting to discuss the Central American situation "worsened by an act of aggression" by Nicaragua against El Salvador, Salvadoran sources reported.

After meeting with the UN Security Council President, China's Li Luye, Salvadoran Ambassador to the UN Ricardo Castaneda reported that the security council will meet on Wednesday or Thursday.

The Salvadoran request, made verbally to the Security Council and to be presented in written form today, takes place after the decision by El Salvador on 26 November to suspend diplomatic and trade relations with Nicaragua.

The Salvadoran Government announced the measure after it discovered surface-to-air missiles and other weapons allegedly earmarked for the Salvadoran guerrillas inside a plane—which the government maintains was coming from Nicaragua—that crashed in El Salvador.

Castanedas said his government will present "all the evidence it has" on this incident to the Security Council.

"Our objective is to continue, within the framework of the Esquipulas, Costa del Sol, and Tela Agreements, to find a solution to overcome this situation within that framework, and to avoid further repercussions," Castanedas added.

"What El Salvador wants," Castanedas explained, is to "have verification and inspection of the circumstances.... There can be no agreement if there is no goodwill and if one country is attacking another."

The Salvadoran Government will not request a formal condemnation of Nicaragua, diplomatic sources reported, because "it does not want it to be the pretext for the situation to become even more serious."

This afternoon the Security Council will resume efforts—which failed on 24 November—to agree on a resolution on El Salvador, it was announced today.

The USSR, which had requested the Security Council meeting, presented a draft declaration requesting an immediate cease-fire and the resumption of negotiations between the Salvadoran Government and the guerrillas. The nonaligned countries in the Security Council and Brazil presented similar proposals.

However, the United States' insistence—asking to include in the document a similar appeal to Nicaragua and open criticism of the Nicaraguan Government for its alleged military aid to the Salvadoran guerrillas—prevented an agreement from being reached on Friday on the proposed resolution.

Suspension of Nicaraguan Ties 'Precautionary'

PA2811002389 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2250 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] San Salvador, 27 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Salvadoran Foreign Minister Manuel Pacas Castro said today that the suspension of relations with Nicaragua "is a precautionary measure," adding that the government is not trying to interrupt the Central American peace process.

"A suspension of relations is the position closest to a break in relations; it is a precautionary measure adopted by the government so as not to interrupt the regional peace process," Pacas explained to the media. Pacas Castro met today with the Foreign Ministry's consultive council, composed of seven former foreign ministers of El Salvador, to analyze the suspension of relations with Nicaragua.

Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani announced the suspension of "all types of relations" with Nicaragua on 26 November, after the Army had located an airplane carrying sophisticated weapons for the Salvadoran guerrilla groups. Following the announcement, Cristiani said that all Salvadoran diplomatic personnel in Nicaragua would be withdrawn.

El Salvador will not attend the next presidential "summit," scheduled for mid-December in Managua, so Cristiani announced that he will ask his Central American counterparts to change the site of the meeting.

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega said yesterday: "I am happy" about Cristiani's measure "because this means I will not have to receive him in Managua."

Most of the Central American governments today stated their concern over the suspension of relations between El Salvador and Nicaragua; they stated their uneasiness about the future of the peace process in the area.

El Salvador has reported "Nicaragua's interference and genocidal actions" to the UN Security Council and the OAS.

Government Claims Crashed Pilot Nicaraguan

PA2811021289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0015 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] San Salvador, 27 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Salvadoran Foreign Ministry today said that the pilot of the plane that crashed while transporting weapons to the Salvadoran rebels was a Nicaraguan who had been an officer in the Sandinist Air Force.

An official communique issued by the Salvadoran Foreign Ministry states that the investigation has revealed that one of the crew was Mauricio Quiroz, an officer in the Sandinist Air Force, who was from Leon, Nicaragua.

The Foreign Ministry's communique added that the plane took off from Montelimar (Nicaragua) and crashed in Piedras Pachas in eastern Usulutan Department.

According to the Salvadoran report, Quiroz was the captain of an AERONICA—Nicaraguan airlines—Boeing 727 and was studying to be a commercial pilot at the AEROMEXICO school in Mexico City.

The Foreign Ministry communique adds that the plane that crashed early Saturday (25 November) morning near a town in eastern El Salvador had a general registry number, "YN-BYK," but according to Salvadoran authorities, its official registration number was "FASAND-534," a Sandinist Air Force registry.

The Salvadoran Army said that the plane was carrying sophisticated weapons for the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN]. The plane was carrying SAM-7 surface-to-air missiles, a Redeye rocket, a 75-mm antitank cannon, and other war materiel.

The location of the plane that crashed with weapons on board caused Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani to break off diplomatic, commercial, and all types of relations with the Nicaraguan Government headed by Daniel Ortega.

According to the Salvadoran Foreign Ministry, the aid that President Ortega is giving the FMLN "is aimed at distracting world attention from the problems in that country and creating the necessary conditions to interrupt the process of democratization in Nicaragua."

Rebels: Arrest of U.S. Citizen 'Setup'

PA2711165189 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1459 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Attention. Pay close attention. As we have already reported, U.S. officials, important persons, and politicians in the United States have issued statements affirming that the Salvadoran Armed Forces are directly linked to the case of the murdered Jesuits. The testimony given by the woman who witnessed the Central American University crime has caused political upheaval that is also being felt in the corridors of the U.S. Congress, the White House, and the Pentagon.

Even Elliott Abrams, former assistant secretary of state for Inter-American Affairs, stated on the "Face the Nation" television program on 27 November that the murder of the six Jesuits, a woman, and her daughter was an action by the Salvadoran Armed Forces and not the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front]. Abrams, a former Reagan administration official, stated: Based on 10 years of experience on the Salvadoran conflict, I presume that the death of the priests was not the work of leftist guerrillas, but an action by forces of the Cristiani Administration. We do not have a record of guerrillas taking this sort of action, said Elliot Abrams. He added that in the past many military officers have been associated with the so-called death squads and the rightist sector in El Salvador. These were the statements by Elliot Abrams. VOA has reported the statements by the woman who witnessed the crime. At this time the Salvadoran top military command, Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce, and President Alfredo Cristiani are being pointed out in the United States as the persons directly responsible for this abominable crime.

In this regard, we want to denounce the following to the international community, the people of the United States, and the international media. Over the past few hours, the Cristiani administration has tried to divert the attention of the United States, which is presently centered on the case of the murdered Jesuits and the involvement of the Salvadoran Government in this crime. We denounce the arrest of U.S. citizen Jennifer casolo as part of a Salvadoran Armed Forces plan to attempt to divert the attention of international public opinion from the Jesuits' case. We also denounce the arrest of Jennifer casolo as a repressive act. Also, the Armed Forces is trying to link humanitarian aid to El Salvador, human rights, and U.S.-based organizations to the FMLN. It is trying to link these organizations and these persons to the FMLN.

The FMLN completely denies that it has any link with U.S. citizen Jennifer casolo. We denounce this accusation as a clumsy setup by the Armed Forces command, which is trying, we repeat trying, to repress these humanitarian organizations and foreigners. This is a setup by the Armed Forces to repress foreign citizens and—we repeat—it is a smoke screen to divert U.S. attention from the case that is presently on the table. It is a setup

in order not to attend to the international community's demand for justice in the case of the Jesuit priests.

If Elliot Abrams, former secretary of state for Inter-American Affairs, who knows so much about El Salvador, says that it was not the FMLN and that the crime was committed by military units and persons linked to the Cristiani administration, his statements will have strong repercussions in the United States. The Armed Forces Command and the Cristiani administration are trying to do all they can to throw a smokescreen here and there to try to divert the attention of the international community and, especially, the people of the United States.

In conclusion, we reaffirm: We deny the Armed Forces' accusations against U.S. citizen Jennifer Casolo. We state that the accusation is a clumsy setup to hide and not respond to the question everyone is asking: Where are the murderers of the Jesuits? Behind the clumsy setup with regard to the U.S. citizen, we also see that they intend to continue to repress humanitarian organizations and different sectors that have expressed solidarity with El Salvador. In short, what this whole setup is attempting to do is throw a huge smokescreen to repress these organizations and foreigners.

Honduran Troops Reportedly Enter Chalatenango

PA2811030789 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0020 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] It has been reported that on 26 November, Honduran troops entered the La Canada Hill area, Arcatao jurisdiction, Chalatenango Department. At 1200, the Honduran troops walked into a minefield, but casualties have not been disclosed.

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front calls on the new Honduran Government that will take over following the 26 November elections to rectify such actions, because they involve the Honduran people in a conflict in which they have nothing to win.

FMLN Requests Mediation of Argentine President

PA2711181989 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1725 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Nov (EFE)—It was reported in Buenos Aires that the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) today asked Argentine President Carlos Menem to initiate his good offices in mediating the conflict between this rebel group and the Salvadoran Government.

Argentine Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo stated to the private news agency "DYN" that Menem received the proposal at a meeting held today with Miguel Angel Saenz, an FMLN envoy and member of its political and diplomatic commission.

The meeting was held at the "Jorge Newbury" airport in Buenos Aires. It was held today at noon, just a few minutes before the Argentine president travelled to Asuncion to meet with Paraguayan President General Andres Rodriguez.

Cavallo refused to say if the Argentine Government would accept or reject the proposal, and stated that "we are studying" the possibility at present and will later "make a decision."

The foreign minister explained that "up to now we have contacted several persons to learn the opinions of the different parties involved [in the conflict]".

Clashes over the past few days in El Salvador have resulted in more than 2,500 deaths of rebels and soldiers.

Just after Menem took over the presidency on 8 July 1989, he announced his intention of mediating in the Middle East conflict and also briefly attempted to mediate in the Nicaraguan conflict.

Cristiani: FMLN Weakened Numerically, Mentally

PA2711142289 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1309 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Report on exclusive interview with Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani by correspondent Epigmenio Ibarra in El Salvador, date not given]

[Text] [Begin Cristiani recording] It has been confirmed that the need for a cease-fire must be agreed upon immediately so that the dialogue can begin. The government is willing to discuss any topic with the guerrillas. We will discuss any reasonable topic. We know that there are things that can be improved. Not only the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front], but any other political force can participate in these talks, so that the democratic process can be consolidated. [end recording]

The Salvadoran president also commented that the possiblity of an FMLN victory has decreased.

[Begin Cristiani recording] Whatever strength they had before, now they have less. Not only do they have less strength numerically with regard to fighters, but mentally they must have also realized that their illusions that the people support them and would rise up against the government are false. Those two facts weaken them even more. [end recording]

The president also said that the Nicarguan Government's involvement in supplying weapons to the guerrillas has been direct, and that this seriously affects the possibility of peace in the area.

Labor Leader: FMLN Offensive 'Historic Error'

PA2811023689 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2110 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Caracas, 27 Nov (EFE)—The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) made a historic error when it initiated the military offensive, Jose Luis

Grande Preza, secretary general of the General Confederation of Workers (CGT), said today.

The labor leader told the foreign press that the Salvadoran guerrillas have never had any capability to confront the army.

The secretary general of the CGT, a Christian Democratic organization, said that the FMLN will need at least 2 years to reorganize and try a new military offensive similar to the one launched 2 weeks ago.

Grande Preza added that in the confrontation between the Army and the FMLN, "the people provided the dead," because there were thousands of casualties in the indiscriminate military attacks.

The Salvadoran union leader said that it is necessary for international organizations such as the OAS and UNESCO, as well as democratic countries, to express more solidarity with the Salvadoran people in order to put an end to a senseless war.

"We make an urgent call to our brother countries so that the international community will launch a diplomatic offensive that will bring the FMLN and the government back to the negotiating table," Grande Preza emphasized.

The Salvadoran leader said that the break in relations with Nicaragua that Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani announced yesterday "was to be expected." He questioned the statements made by Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, that the FMLN represents the Salvadoran people, "because that is not true. The vast majorities in my country do not have any possibility of expressing themselves freely."

Grande Preza stressed that the FMLN-government confrontation has trapped the people between two fires, because although the people are opposed to capitalism "because it is inhumane," the people do not support totalitarianism.

He said that Cristiani's proposal calling for the FMLN to lay down its weapons in order to resume a dialogue is illogical, because under the present conditions there are no guarantees that the rights of citizens will be respected.

* UCA Commentary Analyzes Costa Rica Talks

90EM0043A San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 26 Oct 89 p 17

[Commentary by University of Central America Jose Simeon Canas]

[Text] As was provided for in the Mexico agreements (see PROCESO 401), delegations representing the government and the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] met in San Jose, Costa Rica, on 16 and 17 October, with another day being added for dealing with an impasse which could have led to a serious setback in the process of dialogue-negotiation.

The fact that the meeting was attended by important observers representing the Church, the United Nations, and the OAS, with President Arias participating actively, in itself represents an important step. It is the more significant since in the interval which elapsed between the meetings in Mexico and Costa Rica, events with the potential to hinder this meeting, such as FMLN military offensives, harsh repressive actions on the part of the government, and some terrorist crimes of doubtful origin, have occurred. This meeting emphasized the solidity of the pacification process, despite the undoubted and serious difficulties encountered.

Prior to attending the meeting in Costa Rica, the government seemed to have changed tactics, as reflected in the speech made by President Cristiani to the United Nations. Instead of a long process of dialogue-negotiation which might last 5 years (statements to TIME magazine), he announced his desire to see peace established in El Salvador within a year, and he held out the possibility of an immediate cease-fire, a position previously little favored by the Armed Forces. This served to rebut the FMLN charge that the process of dialogue suggested by Cristiani was merely a propaganda gesture to impress the U.S. Congress and the international community.

The FMLN, for its part, reacted even before the address was given, as its general contents were made known prior to the appearance of President Cristiani before the United Nations General Assembly.

The FMLN would not accept an immediate cease-fire with a subsequent discussion of the serious problems pertaining to the structural, economic, social, military, and political causes of the war, but was willing to discuss them without abandoning its arms and if effective military pressure were to cease, which would guarantee and promote the negotiation process.

The positions had changed. The eagerness of the FMLN to achieve a cease-fire before 15 November 1989, which depended on certain prior political settlements, and the negotiation of a definitive cease-fire and full integration of the FMLN in political life prior to 31 January 1990, also dependent on certain important political agreements, were probably checked by the tactical change made by the government. Its desire was to bring about a total cease-fire on 18 October by means of its pledge to continue negotiations on all of the FMLN demands, although without departing from the constitutional framework.

When the delegations met in San Jose, the basic opposition of the two stands adopted, as well as the possible points of agreement, became clear. The government proposes that a cessation of hostilities be achieved first, to which end it has prepared for the military occupation of the entire country, after which it will enter into political negotiations. The FMLN proposes entering into political negotiations first, in order subsequently to

proceed to discussing a cease-fire, the cessation of hostilities, and demobilization. This is where the great discrepancy lies. The agreement is found in the fact that both parties see it as possible, and even necessary, to reach political agreements which will resolve the causes of the war.

The arguments put forth by the government in proposing its strategy are not entirely solid. The main one is based on the assertion that the negotiation of peace and the simultaneous waging of war cannot readily be reconciled, particularly with the way this war is being waged, involving a series of actions which cast doubt upon the FMLN's desire for peace and frustrate those in the government who are offering major concessions to the FMLN. The government wants to see gestures of goodwill and real compromise. The principal one would be the cessation of hostilities, which should last throughout the entire time of the negotiations. All of this may seem reasonable, but it is not the whole and only truth and thus it should not be presented in dogmatic and intransigent fashion as the sine qua non for any possible negotiated settlement.

The arguments of the FMLN, setting aside for now the concrete content of their political proposals, are more realistic. Although it is not being asked for unconditional surrender, if it were to cease hostilities this would give the government and the Armed Forces the opportunity to consolidate, and the people a breathing spell, which might weaken the urgent desire for a final solution to the conflict. The FMLN would thus be reduced to a kind of "contra" force in a state of hibernation, which would be the prologue to a stage of dissolution. And this could prove fatal to the organization.

But this reasonable concern on the part of the FMLN is complicated by the submission of a series of demands. Not only would they be difficult to obtain or even negotiate, but they might also cause the process of negotiation to drag on indefinitely. They might even lead to a stalemate, given the limitations within which Cristiani's government is operating.

This makes it clear that both parties have approached the problem of negotiations as a different way of waging the war. In other words, what both parties are seeking is to reduce the strength of the other and to increase their own. Naturally, this is an obvious feature of any war, and even any political struggle, but it is not the approach the Salvadoran people want. What is important to the people is to resolve the problem, rather than to have one or the other party emerge strengthened or weakened. At least this is their priority, and the latter consideration is secondary. The government does not want the FMLN to achieve the legal status of a belligerent party, but the FMLN is, in fact, just that. The FMLN does not want to recognize the legal status of the government and the Constitution, but in fact, the government and the Constitution are at least in possession of power, of the legal system, and even of national and international legitimacy.

To view dialogue as another form of waging war is to distort the basic purpose of dialogue. It is not a question of winning at the negotiation table what could not be won in the field, but rather of negotiating ways in which the struggle for power and for the objectives of the organization can be continued not by military means, but by political means. And this, which should be in the forefront at the negotiation table, is not, although it is obviously the very purpose of dialogue and negotiation.

As to the proposals of each of the belligerent and/or parties engaged in dialogue, those of the FMLN as presented earlier in Mexico are, generally speaking, reasonable. But in the particular way they were set forth in Costa Rica, some of them ceased to be reasonable. Calling for elections and a trial of the assassins of Monsignor Romero, set forth as conditions for a cease-fire, lack sufficient logical connection.

The formulation of the proposal for an internal cleanup operation and professionalization of the Armed Forces makes less sense. No one doubts that these things are necessary for the democratization of the country and to achieve a final end to hostilities. But from that to allowing the FMLN to say how this internal housecleaning should be carried out, to dictate the names of those who should be excluded, and even to propose converting the military school into a university, there is a distance which no logical bridge can span. The other party might propose to the FMLN that it undertake an internal purge and dismissal of its top military leaders, who in waging the revolutionary struggle have committed so many serious "errors," as they themselves admit. No progress toward dialogue, if an effective result is desired, can be made along this path.

The proposal which guarantees an end to all forms of repression and the full reign of democratic freedoms and human rights, including, naturally, assignment of the task of verifying the conduct of the FMLN forces in everything relating to human rights, is a much more sensible one. The other points, such as the presentation of a new constitution, reform of the judicial system, and the proposal of temporary economic measures, are of great interest (in particular the first) in terms of understanding the political program of the FMLN. However, they go somewhat beyond what the government and the FMLN together have a right to negotiate without the participation of representatives of other sectors of the Salvadoran people.

The government's demand for an immediate cessation of hostilities is not realistic. It is more of a provocative gaming-table wager than a proposal. The government is still not in a position to offer the FMLN full guarantees where respect for life, freedom, and the other basic rights are concerned, as the briefest analysis of the past and recent history of human rights in El Salvador shows.

However, the offer to establish a special operational commission, made up of government and FMLN representatives, for the implementation of agreements guaranteeing life, liberty, the right of association for all social

forces, is positive and feasible. So is the invitation issued to the International Support and Verification Commission (CIAV) established in Tela. Acceptance of the proposed revision of the electoral system, improvement in the administration of justice, establishment of a minimal national agreement to resolve the economic crisis, and even a reduction of the Army, all of which constitute an important part of what the FMLN proposes and demands, is also positive. And, finally, the request that John Paul II, the secretary general of the United Nations, and the secretary general of the OAS be the guarantors of all of the agreements is positive as well.

The question is, then, how to take advantage of what is positive in the two proposals, and how to overcome what is negative and above all basically irreconcilable. The answer lies in returning to a gradual process, step by step, making uninterrupted progress in objectively seeking a negotiated settlement. If the government is making its proposals in the hope of a failure which will justify a return to and resurgence of the war, it is betraying the country and its commitment to peace. If the FMLN is making its proposals in the hope of a failure which will provide an opportunity for and justify a popular rebellion, it is miscalculating, and distorting reality on the basis of its subjective representations. And also losing credibility, perhaps not with its unconditional supporters, but with the majority of the Salvadoran people, as all of the more serious polls monotonously and repeatedly report. If, on the other hand, both parties take the potential for negotiations seriously (it has never been as great as it is now), there is a way to progress gradually, and even rapidly.

The FMLN has already proposed and implemented a cessation of hostilities, although only temporarily, in what Commander Ana Guadalupe Martinez has called the suspension of half of the war. The pledge not to kill any civilians or unarmed persons and to suspend sabotage of the electrical power grid and communications, as well as the promise not to bomb civilian targets and even to refrain from the use of mines, or to limit it to strictly military uses, of themselves represent a giant step forward in this partial and gradual cessation of hostilities. The government should respond with a similar offer of comparable weight, drawn from the various elements already described, such as a drastic improvement in human rights, both in terms of legislation and the joint commission to verify conformity, above all where the assassinations, seizures, torture, and disappearances are concerned; absolute respect for the unarmed trade-union movement and the other social organizations (communities, universities, associations of all kinds, etc.); an interparty economic agreement, with the FMLN included, to resolve the current crisis; firm guarantees of a greater political role for FMLN sympathizers; respect for the desire of the refugees and displaced persons to return, etc.

Gradual progress on these basic points could advance the process toward a final cease-fire and the demobilization and reincorporation of the FMLN in the political and electoral process.

The final document issued in Costa Rica can be regarded as satisfactory, in view of the difficulties encountered at the meeting, since the highest leadership representing both parties was present there. It not only ensured that the next meeting will be held on 20 and 21 November in Caracas, but also a) reiterated that in order to achieve peace, it is necessary to promote the process of democratization; and said b) that prior to the definitive cessation of hostilities, it may be possible to put an end to the military clashes and actions which violate human rights; c) that the proposals of both parties should be included in the immediate agenda for the next meeting; d) that international mechanisms to verify the agreements are needed; e) that the delegations are fully authorized to discuss and reach agreement on the points on the agenda; f) that representatives of the United Nations and the OAS will continue to attend; and g) that the urging of the Church that the level of aggression in the conflict be reduced and that conditions leading to definitive peace be developed will be taken seriously.

It could be said that nothing concrete or effective in the realm of pacification has as yet been achieved, but it can be asserted that the process of dialogue-negotiation, far from having been broken off or interrupted, has emerged unscathed from one of its most difficult tests, such that there is still a basis and a reason for hope.

Guatemala

Government Faces General Transportation Stoppage

PA2711214589 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1645 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Guatemala City, 27 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Bus transportation in Guatemala City and several other large cities in the country was suspended today because businessmen are protesting the deregulation of the dollar exchange rate and the increase in fuel prices. Both of these measures were recently decreed by the government.

Hundreds of people had to walk to their workplaces along the major Guatemala City avenues and streets this morning with the hopes of "hitching" a ride with someone, because of the lack of transportation.

Trucks and private cars were the only vehicles moving people to their workplaces because many live up to 20 km from their jobs.

Guatemala City Mayor Alvaro Arzu said the city is only responsible for providing transportation; the government must solve the transportation strike.

He said that the increase in the operating costs of transportation because of the increase in the price of fuels is beyond the duties of the municipality.

The AETU [Association of Urban Transportation Companies] announced today that the strike will continue until the government grants conditions that will guarantee the operation of their businesses; bus passengers were asked to be "understanding."

According to AETU, the government measures do not allow them to cover their operating costs because most of the spare parts and supplies are imported. Carlos Arevalo Reyes of AETU told ACAN-EFE that they are asking the government to deregulate bus fares because the government subsidy, some $18 million per year, is not enough to cover expenses. If bus fares are deregulated, they could increase from $0.03 to $0.09, according to unofficial estimates.

Local commentators talked about the possibility that the transportation stoppage could lead to disorder in the capital, as happened before, because many Guatemalans could lose their jobs in view of the difficulties in getting to their workplaces.

On 6 November, President Vinicio Cerezo's government deregulated the purchasing and selling of the U.S. dollar, and the exchange rate became subject to the forces of supply and demand, which led to a strong devaluation of the Guatemalan currency.

Last week, the government also increased the price of oil by-products by 16 percent, a measure that was completely rejected by the country's political, social, and private sectors.

The Labor and Popular Action Union [UASP], Guatemala's largest labor union, stated today that because of the economic measures adopted by the Christian Democratic regime, by January of next year the country "will be going through a severe crisis that will have unforeseeable consequences."

In a television message broadcast on 26 November, President Vinicio Cerezo, in justifying the economic measures, said that "bad Guatemalans" are responsible for the chaotic situation Guatemala is enduring. Cerezo said that the devaluation of the quetzal, as well as other measures adopted recently, are the result of the corruption of and errors committed by previous administrations and not by his government. The prices of staples and some import items have gone up 25 percent since the government decreed that "the quetzal would float."

President Cerezo Proposes Regional Summit

PA2811003489 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2315 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Guatemala City, 27 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Guatemalan Foreign Minister Ariel Rivera reported today that President Vinicio Cerezo has proposed to his Central American counterparts that a special "summit" be held in the next few days, in view of the suspension of relations between El Salvador and Nicaragua.

The foreign minister said Cerezo spoke by telephone today with the presidents of El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua, whom he urged to hold a "summit in any country in the region."

According to Rivera, most of the presidents are willing to meet "immediately," although there is some "reticence" on the part of El Salvador about sitting down to talk with Nicaragua.

The foreign minister said that to find a solution to the current situation, Guatemala has taken the initiative of consulting with the presidents of the area; perhaps in 2 weeks a meeting might be held "in Guatemala or in another area country."

Regarding the Salvadoran charge about Nicaraguan military aid to the Salvadoran guerrillas, Rivera said he was "concerned and saddened" because, according to Rivera, this violates the agreements established in Tela, Honduras.

Honduras

Callejas Proclaims Himself President-Elect

PA2711132689 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] [Opposition candidate] Rafael Leonardo Callejas, accompanied by his wife and children, went to the National Party headquarters at the Honduras Maya Hotel and said the following to international observers:

[Begin Callejas recording] My appreciation for those who have come from foreign countries to share the democracy that comes from the hearts of the Honduran people and to find peace in Honduras while violence rattles along our borders. Hondurans know how to appreciate peace and how to respect the sovereign will of the people. [applause] As all Hondurans have heard through the media, enough votes have been counted, and we can now say that the voters have given victory to the National Party of Honduras. [applause] We won at the voting booths, but the victory belongs to all Hondurans. [applause] That is why I want to ask my fellow citizens to silently pray to God for our fatherland and its children, that we may continue to have democracy, choosing our presidents according to the citizen's will, but above all, that Honduras may continue to be—as I am sure it will—a nation that lives in peace [applause]—peace so valuable that we consider it the most important asset of our society. Tonight, amid the happiness of the election results, I want to take this opportunity to express to the Liberal Party candidates, Carlos Flores Facusse, Enrique Aguilar Cerrato, and Efrain Diaz Arrvillaga, my respect, my regards, and my desire for us to work together for the future of our beloved fatherland and the men and women who live in this country. [applause] National unity is born from the will of each and every one of us. Undoubtedly, each of us has received the support of other Hondurans who considered our banner the most appropriate to govern the nation. We will not exclude

you from the future of Honduras. On the contrary, we need to include you all in the search for solutions needed by the fatherland. I know we will make it. [applause] The future is there for us to build. Of course, we have problems, but there are more things that join us than divide us; there are more things that make us feel close to one another than separate us. These elements of unity are the basis of the next Honduran Government that, according to the will of the Honduran people, I will preside over as of [date indistinct]. [applause] Undoubtedly, we will have many opportunities to continue to talk in the days to come. Today, allow me to again express to the Honduran people, in the name of Norma Regina, our children, my relatives, my friends, and the National Party: Thank you, thank you for that will [words indistinct]. [applause] [end recording]

Calls for Regional Peace Accords

PA2711140989 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0649 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 27 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Apparent Honduran President-elect Rafael Callejas said early this morning during his first news conference after Sunday's elections that the rupture of relations between El Salvador and Nicaragua "makes one think that the peace agreements and the willingness to negotiate in Central America are over."

According to Callejas, the break in relations with Nicaragua announced yesterday by Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani is a matter of concern and shows that "there is a new warmongering atmosphere in Central America."

Callejas, who according to unofficial results aired early this morning by Honduran radio stations is considered the virtual president-elect, said that "it is important to seek peace agreements again to calm the region."

Callejas added that he is willing to attend the next summit of Central American presidents to be held in Managua on 8-9 December if the current Honduran President Jose Azcona invites him.

Nicaragua

Government Considering Change in Summit Venue

PA2811021489 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1950 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Managua, 27 Nov (ACAN - EFE)—Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Mercedes Borgen reported today that the Sandinist government is thinking of moving the meeting of Central American presidents scheduled to be held in Managua on 2 December to some other country .

The change in venue of the forthcoming summit is due to the Salvadoran Government's decision to break diplomatic relations with the Nicaraguan Government on charges that the Nicaraguan Government meddles in its internal affairs and supports the Salvadoran guerrillas.

"We want to keep the same dates (mid-December) but at this moment are thinking of holding the summit in some other country," Borgen told ACAN-EFE.

Nicaragua had recently proposed an urgent meeting of Central American heads of state to speed up the demobilization of the contras, which the presidents had agreed to do by 5 December during their previous meeting, held in August in Tela (Honduras).

A delegation of the Sandinist government headed by Vice Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco failed to obtain agreement for a definitive demobilization of the contras during several meetings in the United States with the contra leadership 2 weeks ago.

The Central American presidents signed on 7 August 1987 in Guatemala City the peace agreement known as "Esquipulas II," which was ratified in subsequent summit meetings held in Alajuela (Costa Rica), in January 1988, in Costas del Sol (El Salvador), in February 1989, and in Tela (Honduras), in August 1989. During this last meeting, the presidents agreed to meet again in Nicaragua in mid-December.

Interview With Alleged Pilot of FMLN Plane

PA2811050289 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0408 GMT 28 Nov 89

["Exclusive" interview with pilot Mauricio Quiros Garcia by Luis Cabrera; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Cabrera] The alleged Nicaraguan pilot that was killed in El Salvador is alive and well, in Managua, talking with us. The Salvadoran Government said Mauricio Quiros Garcia was killed in an alleged transshipment of weapons last Saturday, 25 November when a Cessna plane crashed. Mauricio Quiros Garcia, 36 years old, is here, next to me. He is married and has children. Good evening, Mauricio.

[Quiros Garcia] Good evening. I am so surprised and astonished over this report, that I really do not know how to explain how I felt when I was called. At first, I thought it was a joke. However, after receiving several telephone calls from several reporters, I started to think seriously about this. I want to clarify and explain that this report is totally false.

[Cabrera] Mauricio, the Salvadoran Government says you are a former pilot of the Sandinist Air Force, FAS. Is that true?

[Quiros Garcia] That is true. I was in the FAS for 2 years, and now, I have been working with Aeronica for the last 8 years.

[Cabrera] What types of flights do you make? To where do you fly and from where?

[Quiros Garcia] They are international flights. I am the captain of a Boeing 727. We fly to Panama City; San Jose, Costa Rica; Mexico City, and Guatemala City.

[Cabrera] Where did you go to school?

[Quiros Garcia] In Mexico.

[Cabrera] Were you ever involved with the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front], are you familiar with any type of weapons? The reports mention sophisticated equipment. Did you just unload all that in El Salvador, and turn around so quickly, that you were in several places on Saturday?

[Quiros Garcia] I do not have the slightest notion about sophisticated weapons, or anything else. My job is to pilot a plane, and that is what I do; I pilot the Aeronica plane and that is it.

[Cabrera] Mauricio, do you know the FMLN well?

[Quiros Garcia] No, I do not know anyone from the FMLN. I have no relations with anyone linked at all to the FMLN.

[Cabrera] So why should anyone want to report that you were killed early in the morning in Usulutan Department?

[Quiros Garcia] Well, as I said before, that report has surprised me. Frankly speaking, I do not know. This shows that certain governments sometimes issue totally false reports to hide or, I do not know [changes thought] that report is totally false. That is all I can say. As you can see, I am very concerned, and just as surprised as you are.

[Cabrera] We want to ask Mauricio Quiros Garcia, an Aeronica pilot, this question: Where were you Saturday, please? Do you remember what you did Saturday? It is not that I doubt your word, but we would like to know what you did Saturday.

[Quiros Garcia] Saturday morning I was home. In the afternoon, at approximately 1530, I went to conduct the usual Saturday flight to San Jose and Panama, spending the night in Panama City and then returning the following day, Sunday, at approximately 1000.

[Cabrera] Is there another pilot in Nicaragua with the name of Mauricio Quiros?

[Quiros Garcia] Not as far as I know. I do not know anyone with that name who is a pilot.

[Cabrera] We want to ask you a technical question. You know that in this matter of the famous small Cessna plane, which the Salvadoran Government has used as a pretext for breaking relations with Nicaragua, there is talk about a Cessna plane with a crew of 4, with approximately 30 surface-to-air missiles, a Red Eye missile, ammunition for cannons, and a recoilless cannon. Do you think it is possible that all that can fit in a Cessna and that the plane would be able to take off without trouble?

[Quiros Garcia] From a technical point of view, it is completely impossible. Cessna planes have very little room for luggage or cargo. Those planes are used only for carrying passengers. They have very little space, and it is impossible to fit all that the Salvadoran Government mentions.

[Cabrera] One last question, please. We understand that Aeronica is drafting a communique and that you will hold a news conference in the next few hours.

[Quiros Garcia] That is right. That is right. Tomorrow we will hold a news conference to clear up some matters and to make this official.

[Cabrera] We thank Mauricio Quiros Garcia, the pilot who died in El Salvador and who is alive and kicking. He is smiling now but at the beginning he thought he was the victim of a bad joke. He is calm now, more relaxed. We again thank him for this interview for Radio Sandino

Ortega Calls for Cease-Fire in El Salvador

PA2811042489 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0309 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega at the Central American University in Managua—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] El Salvador has carried out a constant and permanent aggression against Nicaragua and Nicaragua has never suggested breaking relations with El Salvador. Nicaragua has not even thought about breaking relations with Honduras. On the contrary, we have always tried to follow a policy of negotiations to solve problems. I do not believe in fooling ourselves. The real problem here is that the Central American presidents made a commitment, and that commitment must be fulfilled. The Central American presidents made a commitment to mobilize the contras; that commitment must be fulfilled. The Central American presidents also committed themselves to respecting human rights in Central America, and that commitment must also be fulfilled. El Salvador must fulfill that commitment. The Salvadoran Government is not respecting human rights in El Salvador, they are killing people in El Salvador, they have bombed the Salvadoran people and they have killed the Jesuit priests.

In light of all this, the Nicaraguan Government must express its solidarity with the Salvadoran people; the Salvadoran people are the ones who are suffering. We cannot be in solidarity with an army that is killing the Salvadoran people. Let us wait and see how many governments will support that army that is killing the Salvadoran people, an army that is bombing the Salvadoran people, an army that has killed the Jesuit priests. Let us wait and see how many governments will support the army. I assure you that most of the peoples of the world, all the peoples of the world will express their support for the Salvadoran people.

Shortly before coming here this evening, I was watching the news via satellite, and I saw protest demonstrations in the United States. The people are protesting the killing of the Jesuit priests and the bombings in El Salvador. Christians, Catholics, clergymen, and priests are protesting in the United States [words indistinct]. Therefore, our position is quite clear. We do not renounce the peace agreements. We continue to defend them, and we will demand that the agreements be fulfilled. We are going to demand that the Salvadoran Government respect those agreements and respect human rights. What is needed in El Salvador is a cease-fire. A real cease-fire and negotiations are needed in El Salvador to reach an agreement allowing peace and democracy in El Salvador. No one can be happy with that kind of a democratic regime—like the U.S. Government and the Salvadoran Government describe. That government is known for killing people, for killing clergymen. Human rights must be respected in El Salvador.

I am grateful to all the comrades who came from various regions to be here tonight to attend this meeting during which, in addition to discussing several matters of interest for all the Nicaraguan people. We also honored our Evangelistic brothers who have worked here in Nicaragua for the past 7 years and gave posthumous recognition to our Jesuit brothers, the priests brutally murdered in El Salvador. [Words indistinct] we are determined to continue working with the Christian people, the preachers of the Gospel, the Evangelists and all the churches in our country, for a Nicaragua of peace and democracy. Once again I wish to reiterate: There is no contradiction between Christianity and revolution.

Ortega Tours Corinto, Blames U.S. for Sabotage

PA2511142989 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Nov 89

[Text] The population of Corinto, Nicaragua, overflowed with enthusiasm to welcome President Daniel Ortega and to confirm their support for the Sandinist Front in the 25 February 1990 elections. President Ortega toured the Corinto streets along with thousands of residents and gave recognition to the heroism and courage of the Corinto people, who have suffered because of the U.S. administration's mercenary war. Ortega recalled the mining of Corinto Port and the various sabotage operations and bombings that the Corinto people have experienced.

Ortega said: You must take into account that the Yankees, the contra movement, and UNO [National Opposition Union] are liars, because they said those attacks had been carried out by the Sandinist Front.

President Ortega asserted that no political party will solve the Nicaraguan economic problem, and he stressed the efforts made by the revolutionary government on behalf of peace.

Ortega also talked about his meeting with U.S. President George Bush in Costa Rica, during which he demanded respect for the Nicaraguan people.

President Daniel Ortega decorated (Jose Shendel), Corinto Port parish priest, with the revolution's 10th anniversary medal.

Humberto Ortega on Central American Peace Efforts

PA2811015489 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 2230 GMT 27 Nov 89

["Excerpt" of speech by Humberto Ortega honoring disabled war veterans; place not given—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] ...Our societies just because we aspire to live in peace and have a decent relationship with the big countries; just because we do not wish to be humiliated and want to be treated like equals. We, the small countries should be able to demand help in overcoming our problems from the big powers. Just because of that, just because we wish to be independent, just because we defend our right to self-determination, and want to make our own sovereign decisions, they use unrestrained violence and commit crimes. They kill defenseless priests while they are asleep in their beds because they were thinking about the people, and the sorrow they experienced. What will happen to Central America; what will happen to the Central American people; what will happen to the forces of the Central American population if we do not achieve peace soon, if a dialogue is not held, a practical understanding achieved and political solutions not reached in solving regional problems? We badly need these things so that together we can overcome the tremendous economic difficulties we are all experiencing?

In these difficult moments we always resort to our morale. We must be ready to confront any difficult military situation. We cannot accept restrictions on how or where we can operate within our own territory. That would be illogical especially since there are criminal Somozist groups crossing from Honduras to kidnap peasants and murder our people. We cannot restrict ourselves because this or that person outside of Nicaragua does not like the idea that we should have troops near the border. We will station our troops and set up our military equipment in those areas where we feel they are needed to better confront the permanent aggression still being experienced by Nicaragua. We cannot allow ourselves to show any signs of flexibility where this is concerned. What pressure is Honduras and the United States exerting on the contras to abide by what the five Central American presidents agreed to at Tela, Honduras? The five Central American presidents agreed that the contra camps should be dismantled by 5 December. However, the contras just wasted everyone's time at the recent meetings in New York and Washington. They walked into the meetings convinced that they would not take a single step toward any type of negotiation. The contras are not willing to sign anything that represents a step toward peace and they are not even willing to abide

by what the five Central American presidents agreed upon in Tela. The presidents agreed that the contras should be demoblized by 5 December. Well, 5 December is almost here and the camps in Honduras have not been dismantled. This means then that it will be up to the Central American presidents to agree on how to force the contras to abide by what was decided in Tela. In the meantime, we are not going to let our guard down. On the contrary, we are going to continue with our operations throughout the country against forces that have penetrated our territory and we will continue to repel, along the border, any attempt of mass infiltration by the contras.

A few days ago, a large group of contras tried to cross through the Wamblan area. They were forced back. On that occasion they again activated the famous arrows, the famous Red-Eye's, that the United States and Mr Reagan gave his freedom fighters back in 1985. Reagan gave his freedom fighters 300 of those arrows back in 1985 in the hopes that the contras would defeat the Sandinist Army. Now some arrows have turned up in El Salvador and a big fuss is being made. So who brought those famous arrows to Central America in the first place? Was it not the United States? Was it not the United States that put hundreds of those arrows in the hands of irresponsible people? We do not know where many of those arrows are at this moment. Since the contras were not able to achieve their goal back in 1985, perhaps those arrows are now in other hands and other markets.

We believe that in the difficult times that confront us, now that our people have heard of the struggle, the political and military crisis in El Salvador, we, the leaders of the various governments in the area must act calmly and with greater energy take steps to ensure that commitments are fulfilled and that lasting and firm peace in our region is achieved.

Decorates War Veterans

PA2811010889 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 2210 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Today, we are commemorating Soldier of the Fatherland Day. Ivan Garcia, who is president of the Federation of Boxing, is among those who have been promoted today. Majors Carlos Sosa and (Jaime Amurcia) have been promoted to lieutenant colonels. A total of 50 war disabled veterans have been decorated with the Camilo Ortega Award. Let us listen now to part of the speech given by revolution Commander Humberto Ortega Saavedra.

[Begin recording] [Ortega] We were remembering the thousands of Nicaraguans, who were with Sandino when they were injured, and the fact that they had to wander aimlessly, without any hope, back in those difficult years. At that time our victory was far off. As I was decorating these war disabled, I was remembering our comrades, our brothers of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] of the early years, Tomas Borge, Carlos Fonseca Amador, Daniel Ortega Saavedra, and other FSLN comrades who paved the way. I was thinking of our brethren who were tortured and fell, and could not be helped as the struggle was very difficult at that time.

In spite of the many economic problems that we are all familiar with, the revolutionary government tries to ensure that every war disabled person will be better able to cope every day. We are sure that in the future when we have achieved total peace, for which we have struggled so much and for which our brothers whom we are honoring today gave their lives, and the war disabled who lost their limbs in difficult struggle for the fatherland , we will be able to give them more attention. In a more systematic and satisfactory manner, we, as a state and government, will be able to confront all the difficulties that we will experience in the coming years when we rebuild Nicaragua.

We have a moral obligation and we must make an effort to show that this is true everyday. We must work harder in remembering our heroes, and also in caring about their relatives, and children. We must care for the relatives of those who fell and who are now confronting difficult moments in the economic and social crisis that we are enduring. [end recording]

That was part of a speech that Revolution Commander Humberto Ortega, the minister of defense, has been delivering.

FSLN Deputy Scores Cristiani for Severing Ties

PA2711233289 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Sandinist Deputy Nathan Sevilla has said that the decision of the Salvadoran administration of Alfredo Cristiani to break diplomatic relations with the Nicaraguan Government shows that government's nature and the fact that it is a U.S. puppet.

[Begin recording] [Sevilla] I think this is a desperate action by the ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] government, which is thoroughly discredited and criminal. I think that what it sought when it broke relations with Nicaragua was to distract attention from the strong pressure of international public opinion, not only because of the killing of the Jesuit priests but because of the indiscriminate bombings in densely populated areas in San Salvador and other Salvadoran cities.

I think that the negotiating process in Central America, which calls for the dismantling of the contras, cannot be looked at from the standpoint of this break in diplomatic relations. The other Central American countries, and many Latin American countries in general, are undoubtedly also very concerned over the developments in El Salvador, in which there is a policy of institutionalized terror against the Salvadoran people.

This thoroughly corrupt ARENA government, which commits crimes against its own people, does not have

even the slightest political or moral authority to interfere with the peace processes in Central America. Instead, I think that it has been forced to admit the strength and relevance of the Farabnundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN]. In addition, this government is under heavy pressure to stop the bombings against the population and to establish a cease-fire and negotiations.

The strength of the armed people of El Salvador is so great that a break in relations with Cristiani should be coupled with greater recognition of the FMLN in the diplomatic sphere, because it is a force that truly represents the Salvadoran people.

[Reporter] Mr Deputy, could the new situation created by the Cristiani, or ARENA government, jeopardize the Tela agreements and the summit scheduled to be held in Nicaragua?

[Sevilla] Thus far, the factor that has been hindering progress for the implementation of the agreement reached by the presidents has been the U.S. Government's policy. The U.S. Government has opposed it and has maintained, come hell or high water, an attitude that has caused the contra chieftains to have a completely unrealistic attitude regarding the agreements. They are combining the political and electoral struggle. The intention is to get the UNO [National Opposition Union]—which was created by the U.S. Government—and the Somozist guard as well as the contras to carry out their policy while the contras continue their terrorism and their pressures, thus affecting the normal course of the electoral process and affecting the process itself. Therefore, under these circumstances, it is clear that the break is but one more of the U.S. Government's weapons. This is certain. We must not be duped. Despite its discrediting, the Cristiani government is supported by the U.S. Government and, in this sense, is part of the policy of sabotaging agreements. However, the other Central American countries have always had a frank and sincere desire to fulfill these agreements, and I think this sentiment will prevail at the coming summit. [end recording]

CIA Alleged To Fund Opposition $9 Million

PA2611161289 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 25 Nov 89 P 6

[Text] A diplomatic source, who requested anonymity for obvious reasons and is accredited in Managua, has reported that the National Endowment for Democracy [NED]—an appendix of the CIA—has plans on how to manage the $9 million that the Bush administration has alotted for the rightist National Opposition Union [UNO].

The NED has organized a special team that includes directors, finance executives, and program administrators. According to our source, the internal administration will cost NED $170,000 in salaries, $18,000 in transportation, $21,000 in office supplies, $12,000 in consultations, and $12,000 in other expenses, which adds up to $233,000.

In a recent meeting of the board of directors, the NED agreed to finance the activities of the "Free Book" [Libro Libre] group of Xavier Zavala and other mercenaries residing in San Jose, Costa Rica, and to additional funds for Xavier Arguello, a contra who writes material against the Sandinist Revolution and favorable toward the Bush government.

These expenses come from a special fund. It is noteworthy that the NED has an annual budget of $25 million, and that funds from its general budget are financing some projects that are not exactly inside Nicaragua, but have to do with our country, including this "Free Book." A Dependent "Independent"

As for the UNO television advertisements, they are handled in Managua by Carlos Briceno Lovo, who is also the producer and director of the so-called "Independent" newscast. We do not know why it is called independent because this journalist gets money stained with blood for preparing a newscast against the Sandinists. The NED has approved $200,000 for Briceno Lovo's distorted newscast, and later, he will receive more.

The NED and AID [Agency for International Development], two organizations having CIA personnel, have already advanced quite a bit in defining the usage investment of the $9 million. Although the NED officially spends $5 million of the $9 million through its own channels, it is actually in charge of the overall project planning.

Our diplomatic source said that the CIA agents are coordinating efforts with UNO leaders to recruit a group of electoral activists from the Workers Permanent Congress, CPT, who will be trained to organize the rank and file.

These activities, with salaries paid by the NED, will reportedly be distributed throughout all departments, little towns and municipalitites that campaign in favor of the rightist UNO and against the Sandinist government. They are also planning to bring to Nicaragua two international teams of trade unionists as "observers." There will reportedly be some 20 "unionists" divided in two groups, one arriving in December and another in February.

We were also told that Sergio Cambronero, of the so-called "Center for Democratic Advisory"—another obscure organization linked to the CIA—continues to be a key link between the Managua gringo project (UNO) and the bridges in Costa Rica, Miami, and Washington, from where laundered money for financing plans of the armed, internal contras comes from.

Fuel Facility Financing With USSR Slated

PA2411235289 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 2015 GMT GMT 24 Nov 89

[Text] The construction of a fuel storage facility for receiving and storing oil products such as gasoline and diesel in the Pacific coast could solve, in the short term,

Nicaragua's lack of hydrocarbons which results from the United State's trade embargo.

Emilio Rappaccioli, director of the Nicaraguan Institute of Energy [INE], has said that work is being done on designing the facility, which is one of the biggest projects undertaken in Nicaragua with foreign financing.

Rappaccioli said that the facility for receiving and storing oil products will be located in El Transito Resort, which was the place chosen by technicians after conducting an inspection of various Pacific coast areas, including the Masachapa coast.

Managua Forum To Discuss Central American Peace

PA2411125089 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1815 GMT 23 Nov 89

[Text] Managua, 23 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Nicaraguan situation and the Central American peace process will be among the major issues discussed at the First Forum for Democracy in Nicaragua, which began in Managua today and which is organized by the National Opposition Union (UNO), an alliance of 14 political parties headed by Violeta Chamorro.

A total of 31 political and labor union leaders from Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, Panama, Costa Rica, and Guatemala will participate in the meeting,according to LA PRENSA, owned by Chamorro.

According to the organizers, the UNO intends to have the Sandinists "on the carpet" during this meeting, which will last 2 days.

Horts Schonmohn, a member of the "Konrad Adenauer" Foundation from the FRG, is a special guest of the forum.

Of the 12 topics included on the agenda, 8 are related to the situation in Nicaragua and the rest will cover Latin American economic, political, and military issues.

The situation of the Miskito Indians in the Atlantic coast region, the Nicaraguan democratic process, and the role of the media in the elections and economic crisis will be some of the topics discussed at the forum.

Four Contras Killed in Clashes 18-20 Nov

PA2511131889 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 24 Nov 89 P 4

[Text] Four counterrevolutionaries, including two chieftains, were killed by EPS [Sandinist People's Army] troops in fighting in Matagalpa, Chontales, and the Autonomous Region of the South Atlantic between 18 and 20 November, the Defense Ministry has reported.

In a communique, the Defense Ministry pointed out that the chieftains known as "El Choco" and "El Chaparro" were killed in the area of the San Luis River and in El Caimito, in the Autonomous Region of the South Atlantic, on 18 and 20 November, respectively.

Two more mercenaries were killed in fighting in Las Penitas, Matagalpa Department, and in La Tigra, Chontales Department. In addition, three rifles, equipment, and a knapsack made in the United States were seized.

Panama

Opposition Leaders Arrested on Return From U.S.

PA2811020289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0115 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] Panama City, 27 Nov (ACAN - EFE)—Two important Panamanian opposition leaders, Guillermo Cochez and Francisco Artola, were arrested early this evening upon their return from the United States, according to Christian Democratic Party [PDC] sources.

PDC President Ricardo Arias Calderon has told ACAN-EFE that Cochez and Artola, vice presidents of the PDC and of the Arnulfist Party respectively, were arrested at the airport by Military Information Service (G-2) agents.

Waiting at the airport for the arrival of Cochez and Artola were diplomats from the Holy See, Spain, the FRG, France, and Venezuela who were informed, according to what one of them has said, that the arriving political leaders were going to be taken to the G-2 headquarters for "routine interrogation."

The arrest has not been confirmed by spokesmen for the airport's security services or by G-2 agents consulted by ACAN-EFE. They said they did not know what had happened.

The two opposition leaders were returning from Washington where they had met with several OAS delegation members at the OAS meeting that took place in that capital from 13-18 November.

According to a diplomat, a captain has explained that Cochez and Artola are to be questioned about the statements they made during their stay in the United States, and then they will be released.

Ricardo Arias has expressed "serious concern" over the fate of the arrested oppositionists and said he fears that the two could be "tortured physically and psychologically as was the case involving other opposition people."

President Opens International Panama Conference

PA2811015689 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2200 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Panama City, 27 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Panamanian President Francisco Rodriguez today said that the United States misrepresents Panama's situation because "it uses words that sometimes mean the opposite" of what is occuring in the country.

Opening the "International Conference Against Intervention in Central America, the Panama Case" today, Rodriguez pointed out that "what is not known about us,

what is hidden, what is disguised, and what is misrepresented causes us more damage."

According to the event's organizers, the conference is being attended by delegates from Latin America and more than 100 hundred U.S. citizens, who will be able "to see the truth with their own eyes," Rodriguez stated.

The ceremony was attended by Cabinet members who will give lectures on relations between Panama and the United States—currently at their lowest point in a decade—for the next 3 days.

The conference will end on 29 November, and the organizers have announced General Manuel Antonio Noriega's participation in the closing ceremony.

Concluding the inauguration, the president said that the executive branch is studying the possibility of decreeing a state of "national emergency," which was requested by the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives—the smallest administrative unit in the country—last week. The state of "national emergency" involves the suspension of some constitutional rights, although official sources have told ACAN-EFE that this is not what they have in mind.

Foreign Minister Meets With European Diplomats

PA2511185589 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1645 GMT 24 Nov 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Leonardo Kam has started meeting with Panamanian diplomats accredited in Europe. Panamanian ambassadors, charge d'affaires, and consuls stationed in Europe attended this first meeting to evaluate and study the Panamanian situation and coordinate future actions. Planning and Economic Policy Minister Gustavo Gonzalez also attended this event. The meeting follows a similar one held recently in Panama City with our diplomatic officials stationed in Latin America, and it allows our diplomats to get direct information regarding the present Panamanian political and economic situation, which is confronted by the United States of America's merciless aggression. Foreign Minister Kam inagurated the work meeting, which continued until very late at night. Kam gave an up-to-date explanation of the national situation. After Kam spoke, mission chiefs and top Foreign Ministry officials exchanged opinions.

The next speaker was the planning minister, who spoke to the diplomats for more than 1 and ½ hours. He fully assessed the economic situation and the consequences of the coercive U.S. measures against Panama. Gonzalez noted that the economic aggression has caused losses of more than $2 billion. Panama Defense Forces Captain Severino Mejia, executive director of the Panama Treaty Affairs Executive Directorate, then spoke to the diplomats and enumerated the violations of the Torrijos-Carter treaties and the aggressive actions in Panama by U.S. Army troops stationed in the canal area. Capt Mejia supported his talk with a slide presentation.

Discusses U.S. Ties

PA2811033789 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Panamanian Foreign Minister Leonardo Kam has characterized his meetings of the past 3 days in Madrid with Panama's ambassadors and charge d'affaires as positive.

[Begin recording] [Kam] The purpose of the meetings was to establish direct contact with our ambassadors, to inform them as thoroughly as possible about the situation in the country, and to coordinate the tasks our diplomatic corp must tackle in these countries, especially the task of making Panama's truth known to counteract the terrible disinformation campaign the United States has mounted against our country in that part of the world.

[Reporter] What mechanisms could the Panamanian Government use to improve relations with the United States?

[Kam] Panama cannot be blamed for the poor state of our relations with the United States. Panama is not the aggressor. Panama is the victim of the aggression. We are not responsible for the low level of relations with the United States.

[Reporter] Panama has criticized...[sentence incomplete as heard]

[Kam] We, of course, have said that we are willing to normalize our relations with the United States. This normalization requires conditions that deal essentially with the end of U.S. aggression against our country, especially respect for our independence, sovereignty, and national dignity. [end recording]

Government Announces National Military Exercise

PA2711203089 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2004 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Good afternoon, listeners throughout the country. Welcome to this radio network.

We would like to inform you that at this very moment a series of military exercises are being conducted throughout the country. These exercises have been programmed and included in the operational plan devised to guarantee the homeland's defense and dignity.

These maneuvers, which are being carried out throughout the country, include the participation of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], the Dignity Battalions, and CODEPADI [Committees for The Defense of the Fatherland and Dignity] members.

The exercises include air, land, and sea units. Planes, helicopters, patrol boats, and military trucks are therefore currently moving in various directions to take up defense positions.

We ask citizens not to become alarmed because of the deployment movement. We repeat. These movements are part of scheduled exercises included in the operational plan of the "An Eye for an Eye, a Tooth for a Tooth" operation.

Battalions Threaten Neighborhood

PA2711231089 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2150 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Panama City, 27 Nov (ACAN - EFE)—Several dozen "Dignity Battalions" members, trained by the Panama Defense Forces (FDP), today occupied an exclusive neighborhood in Panama City where they carried out paramilitary exercises and frightened followers of the opposition.

The "battalions" action was carried out within the framework of the "Eye for an Eye, Tooth for a Tooth" operation aimed at warning the United States and the opposition of the consequences that an eventual kidnapping or assassination of General Manuel Antonio Noriega would entail.

The members of the Dignity Battalions carried out their maneuvers on Via Italia where the Apostolic Nunciature is located and where Guillermo Endara, main leader of the opposition, sought refuge.

"Commander Thompson" of the "Dignity Battalions" told ACAN-EFE that the operation was a "symbolic occupation" of this exclusive Panama City neighborhood "to show what will happen if our leader (Noriega) is kidnapped or murdered by the United States."

"If anything should happen to our commander Noriega, the traitors will pay with their heads," "Thompson" said in reference to the opposition leaders.

Men and women dressed in civilian clothes, with their faces covered, and armed with rifles, without ammunition, surrounded several apartment buildings, and at certain points on the avenue, they controlled the traffic.

In another area of the same neighborhood, they temporarily set up a small barricade with cardboard boxes.

Vigil in Ancon Area

PA2811041289 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0013 GMT 28 Nov 8

[Text] At nightfall today, hundreds of Panamanians armed only with a Panamanian flag, a torch, and a willingness to continue fighting against U.S. imperialism, staged a vigil for peace in what became a human chain along the length of Martyrs Avenue and Peace Avenue. When Dignity Battalions Coordinator Benjamin Colamarco was consulted about the impact of this vigil, he said:

[Begin recording] [Colamarco] This vigil is part of the "An Eye for an Eye, a Tooth for a Tooth" operation. Today, we have carried out a phase of this operation called "Arraijan-Chorrera, Courageous People." Tonight, the CODEPADI [Committees for the Defense of the Fatherland and Dignity] of the metropolitan area are staging a vigil with torches in the reverted area of Ancon to reaffirm the sovereignty of our people, to defend our territory, and to repudiate the maneuvers of the U.S. Army that has been increasing its arrogant activities in our territory in recent days. Therefore, the Panamanian people are rejecting the U.S. Army. Several hundred fellow countrymen from the CODEPADI are here staging this vigil, which is also to commemorate the anniversary tomorrow of our independence from Spain.

Tomorrow, the "An Eye for an Eye, a Tooth for a Tooth" operation will also be part of the parade to be held in La Chorrera, with the participation of all the people's organizations, the Dignity Battalions, the CODEPADI, and the Panama Defense Forces.

[Reporter] Will the CODEPADI and the Dignity Battalions continue their actions?

[Colamarco] Yes. After tomorrow's activities, we will reschedule operations so that there will be activities up to 31 December of the CODEPADI and Dignity Battalions to repudiate the arrogant attitude of the U.S. imperialists and to point out that we are alert and we will not allow any action that will violate the sovereignty of our country. [end recording]

One Phase of Operation Ends

PA2711214389 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2120 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Listeners throughout the country, we announce that the "Arraijan and Chorrera, Courageous People" phase of the "An Eye for an Eye, a Tooth for a Tooth" operation has ended. The country returns to its customary normal situation.

PRC Ambassador to Colombia Visits Noriega

PA2511192489 Panama City Television Service in Spanish 1530 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] His Excellency Wang Yusheng, PRC ambassador to Colombia, has conveyed the solidarity of the PRC Government and people with the just Panamanian cause to General Manuel Antonio Noriega during a visit to the Panama Defense Forces headquarters.

The PRC, an Asian state that became a people's republic in 1949, has an area of 9.780 million sq km and a population of over 735 million, nearly one-quarter of the world's population. It is one of the most technologically advanced countries in agroindustry programs, vegetables cultivation, and vegetable seed production, aquiculture, and agricultural inputs.

The PRC is willing to offer us technical assistance in these areas to improve Panama's economy, especially its agriculture.

During his visit to the headquarters, the distinguished Asian diplomat was accompanied by embassy officials (Liu Yunsiu), (Huliac Shulan), and (Yan Beijiu). Panamanian Foreign Minister Leonardo Kam and Colonel Teodoro Alexander attended the meeting.

Iranian Official Meets Ambassador; Berates U.S.

PA2411191889 Panama Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Nov 89

[Text] Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister, M. J. Larijani, has stated that the U.S. attitude of backing bums and traitors who instigate coups d'etat is condemnable from any point of view. He made these statements when presenting, in representation of President Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Panamanian Ambassador Guillermo Vega and the special mission stationed in Tehran. Deputy Minister Larijani also said that countries cannot allow or accept foreign intervention during the last years of the 20th century.

Assembly Resolution on Canal Administrator

PA2511225589 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 23 Nov 89 p 13

[Resolution issued by the Panamanian National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives in Panama City on 22 November]

[Text] Resolution No [no number as published]

By which we demand faithful compliance with the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

The National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives, in use of its legal powers, and

Whereas:

The 1977 Canal Treaty establishes in its points (c) and (d) of Paragraph 3, Article III, that the Republic of Panama shall propose a Panamanian national for appointment by the United States of America as Panama Canal Commission Administrator beginning January 1, 1990;

The Legislative Assembly in accordance with Law 16 of 27 June 1989 selected Tomas Gabriel Altamirano Duque to occupy the post of Panama Canal administrator as of 1 January 1990;

High-ranking U.S. Government officials have expressed their intention of not considering the appointment of the candidate proposed by the Republic of Panama and intend to appoint another person, which would be the most flagrant violation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties; and

The appointment of a Panamanian citizen proposed by the Republic of Panama to occupy the post of Panama Canal administrator is one of the Panamanian people's greatest achievements included in the signing of the Torrijos-Carter treaties, the National Assembly of Corrigimiento Representatives resolves:

1. To support the designation of Tomas Gabriel Altamirano Duque to occupy the post of Panama Canal administrator as of 1 January 1990;

2. To declare itself in a state of alert to guarantee faithful compliance with the Torrijos-Carter treaties and the Panamanian law, according to which Tomas Gabriel Altamirano Duque was proposed to occupy the post of canal administrator; and

3. To send a copy of the current resolution to the media.

Be it promulgated and published
Issued in Panama City on 22 November 1989
Fermin Herrera, president
Omar Pedreschi Melgar, honorary secretary general

Front of Organized Nationalist Leaders Formed

PA2811032089 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Nov 89

[Text] The graduates of the Leaders' School, located in the General Omar Torrijos Base in Rio Hato, have issued a resolution creating the Front of Organized Nationalist Leaders [Frente de Lidered Nacionalistas Organizados], FELINO. The group will have provincial chapters. The FELINO resolution totally repudiates individuals it describes as servile to U.S. interests, and demands that the full weight of the laws be brought to bear on those who sell out their homeland. FRELINO also reiterates its loyalty to Commander Noriega.

Banking Commission Spokesman on Restrictions

PA2611041389 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Nov 89

[Interview with Carlos De Sedas, chairman of the National Banking Commission, on ending bank deposit restrictions; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [De Sedas] The restrictions on long term deposits and savings accounts will end on 31 December. Two possible actions can be taken at that time: Either the accounts are released, or the restrictions are continued. My proposal is that banks that voluntarily request to release their accounts be allowed to do so, and banks that request a programmed and scientific release of their accounts, under the CBN's supervision, should also be allowed to take this action. What we definitely have to do is break the ice. Restrictions should not be indefinitely prolonged. Depositors or account holders must be given some hope that at some time they will be able to—partially or fully—make use of their funds. Thus, my proposal is that we take the same course of action that we took with the open accounts some months back. Then, too, it was said that it was not the right time for those restrictions to be lifted. However, the open accounts were lifted slowly in a scientific and progressive manner until all were totally released. Actions of this nature would allow account holders to trust the banking system, and, in my opinion, would contribute positively to the rekindling of the country's economy.

[Reporter] We understand that the National Banking Association [ABN] had commissioned a group of businessmen to facilitate these procedures. What are the results of the work done by this commission?

[De Sedas] At the request of the CBN, the ABN appointed a group of bankers to meet with CBN officials to propose formulas and plans such as the measures and proposals that I have described here. Unfortunately, as far as I know, the ABN commission has not worked out. I mean, they have not presented any concrete proposal to the CBN.

Opposition Leader Claims Torture by G-2 Agents

PA2411192889 San Jose Radio Impacto In Spanish 0300 GMT 22 Nov. 89

[Text] Roberto Arosemena, a Panamanian opposition leader, has published a document accusing General Noriega, Francisco Rodriguez, and Carlos Villalaz of torture inflicted on him on 10 November when he returned from Venezuela.

The document, which is similar to the one published in 1987 entitled "I Accuse," states "I accuse Francisco Rodriguez's regime and Attorney General Carlos Villalaz of permitting the use of the government structure to attack my right to life, honor, and property." In 1987 Arosemena was captured and held for several months in the Noriega regime's prisons, where he was tortured. On 10 November 1989 upon his return from Venezuela he was kidnapped by G-2 agents, who inflicted cruel torture on him. He also accuses Francisco Rodriguez and the Attorney General of allowing torturers to use the passport section at the airport under the responsibility of Renato Pereira, government and justice minister. He accuses them of allowing torturers to use the airport customs office under the responsibility of Orville Goodin, finance and treasury minister. He accuses them of allowing torturers to use the G-2 section of the airport headed by Major Rafael Cedeno. He accuses them of allowing torturers access to the files of G-2 headquarters and from the Defense Forces General Staff, under the responsibility of Manuel Antonio Noriega. After these accusations Arosemena recounts in his document that after being detained at the airport on 10 November, his baggage was searched thoroughly, and he was taken in a vehicle to the state security offices. During the ride he was blindfolded. The agents asked him his name, and when he did not answer they threatened to kill him and started to beat him. He felt blows all over his body. They slapped him. One of the torturers asked him: If you are a nationalist why do you attack us? He answered: Because you are militarist, you only believe in force and violence. You do not respect people's dignity. He said that the military does not respect the people's dignity, just as the Yankees do not respect national dignity. He was stripped naked, beaten, and questioned about all his relatives. Later he was abandoned on a street in Panama City.

As he did not know where he was he asked a young man. The young man looked at him strangely so Arosemena told him: The G-2 has just dropped me off here after a 10-hour kidnapping.

When the young man heard that he walked away briskly and said nothing.

Arosemena shouted at him: If you can call this telephone number tell them Dr. Arosemena is free after continuing his struggle for freedom. He accused the torturers of having kidnapped him for 10 hours and inflicting mental suffering on him and his relatives and friends.

He accuses them of stealing $300 in cash and books worth $400 from him.

Opposition Group Lauds OAS Resolution

PA2411235489 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 22 Nov 89 p A-7

[Communique issued by the Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance—date not given]

[Text] Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance [ADOC] Communique

The OAS General Assembly resolution on the Panamanian crisis is an important additional measure condemning the dictatorial regime which rules us, and expressing support for the Panamanian people's peaceful struggle for liberty, justice, and democracy.

The draft resolution proposed by the regime was not even discussed, and during the voting on the resolution which was finally approved, only the Nicaraguan Government voted along with the Panamanian regime.

As a result of the resolution, it is very clear that the continuation and worsening of the crisis overwhelming our country is due to "the lack of political will by Panamanian authorities to lead a fraternal nation according to the laws established in the political constitution and to respect human rights."

With good reason, the resolution states "the urgent need for the Panamanian people to express their will in the shortest possible time." This is totally compatible with the ADOC proposal to our people to use a plebiscite for choosing the future democratic path of our country. We certainly were not the ones who refused to respect the people's will.

Finally, we point out that the resolution promotes and encourages diplomatic measures adopted by the majority of OAS members to isolate the regime of General Noriega until the process to establish a constitutional and democratic government begins.

Because of all the preceding, on behalf of the Panamanian people who bestowed their confidence upon us on 7 May, we are grateful for the solidarity expressed in the OAS resolution, and hope that the OAS will continue expressing its solidarity more effectively everyday.

Signed by: President-Elect Guillermo Endara, First Vice President-Elect Ricardo Arias Calderon, and Second Vice President-Elect Guillermo Ford.

Rights Group Criticizes Threats to Opposition

PA2811035489 Panama City PANORAMA CATOLICO in Spanish 26 Nov 89 p 1

[Text] The Panamanian Human Rights Comittee [CPDH] has publicly criticized the declaration by the General State Council issued on 23 November [date as published]. In its statement, the CPDH labels as an "unheard of act of state terrorism" the part in that declaration that noted "the Panamanian Government will find it very difficult to answer for the security of opposition leaders and other national collaborators" in the event of any possible attack against Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces.

The CPDH feels that that declaration "constitutes a dangerous call to hatred and violence by those groups that support the government," adding that the declaration is an open challenge to the Constitution and the laws, since in reality it authorizes the death penalty, which is banned by the Constitution.

In addition, the CPDH recalls that in the Constitution as well as in the various international agreements signed and ratified by Panama, respect for a person's life, safety, and liberty is a priority.

Concluding, the CDPH urges the goverment and military authorities to immediately cease this new form of intimidation and collective terrorism against the defenseless people of Panama, since it is the government and military authorities who are attacking the lives and dignity of men.

Opposition Statement On Salvadoran 'Tragedy'

PA2411184389 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 21 Nov 89 p a-12

[Statement by the Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance—ADOC]

[Text] The abominable assassination of six Jesuit priests and two other persons in El Salvador dramatizes the tragedy that the Salvadoran people are suffering. Decades of military dictatorship and social injustice have created a vicious cycle of violence that has taken and continues to take thousands of lives.

From the bottom of our hearts, we Panamanians are horrified over this tragedy. We hope our Salvadoran brothers will find peace as soon as possible by examining and broadening through a dialogue the democratization that they have courageously undertaken in recent years.

Upon reflecting on El Salvador's bloody experience, we demand now, more than ever before, that the current Panamanian regime immediately begin the process of democratization in our country so that we can achieve reconciliation among ourselves before a cycle of fratricidal violence is established among us. Panama, 16 November 1989

Guillermo Endara Galimany, president-elect; Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon, first vice president-elect; Guillermo Ford, second vice president-elect.

Drug Trafficking Report Implicates Noriega

PA2611035489 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Nov 89

[Text] The State University Publishing House of Costa Rica has printed the second report issued by the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly on narcotics trafficking that involves Noriega and some people on his payroll. Some Panamanians, including Noriega and persons in his service, were mentioned in the report.

The names of the Noriega employees appearing in the report are Floyd Carlton Caceres, Teofilo Watson, and Anibal Antonio Aizpurua. According to the report, Carlton Caceres headed both a network that served Noriega and another international narcotics trafficking organization.

The report pointed out that Noriega's role in the anti-Sandinist struggle began when he sent several pilots into Costa Rica on orders to engage in drug trafficking.

The illegal activities resulted from Colonel Oliver North's request for assistance from General Noriega, which opened the doors for Noriega's henchmen to use Costa Rican territory for the transshipment of weapons and drugs.

Investigations Uncover Passport Counterfeiting

PA2611161589 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Nov 89

[Text] Following instructions issued by Colonel Nivaldo Madrinan, director of the National Investigations Department [DENI], the Directorate of Crimes against the public trust has dismantled a group, composed of Cubans and Panamanians, that was counterfeiting Immigration Directorate passports and rubber stamps. The authorities raided house R-2 on Mariscal Road, Villa Caceres neighborhood, where the group had been operating since last year.

Cuban group leaders Juan Quilme de Armas and Pedro Perez Carrera and Panamanians Juan Rivera and Marcelino Cerezo were arrested during the raid. A suitcase containing counterfeit passports from Chile, Spain, Guatemala, Venezuela, and the United States was found in the house. The DENI also seized U.S. immigration cards, a suitcase containing Panamanian immigration entry and exit rubber stamps, U.S. social security cards, rubber stamps from several Central American Consulates, and plane tickets.

According to the preliminary investigation, the arrested counterfeiters, who sold the passports for $5,000, were turned over to the Republic's Auxiliary Prosecutor's Office.

Columnist Urges Noriega as Head of Government

PA2411171189 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 21 Nov 89 p 4

["Political Arena" column: "Tony Noriega, Head of the Government by the Choice of the People," by Baltazar Renan Aizpurua]

[Text] When on the night of 13 November I addressed General Manuel Antonio Noriega as the next head of the Panamanian Government and reiterated to him that this appointment was the choice of the Panamanian masses and that he could not turn it down, I did it with full awareness of my responsibility as secretary general of the Journalists Labor Union. In doing this, I reasserted the main duties of a journalist to the national public opinion: To be witnesses of their times, to commit themselves to the society, and to be bearers of truth.

Today I proclaim, in the face of the criminal uprsurge against our country by the Yankee army that not only is it necessary for "Tony" Noriega to be appointed head of government because of his undeniable military-political leadership, but it is urgent because we must show the world that the Panamanians' sovereign will has no room for argument and that we will determine our domestic affairs. In my opinion this decision has been delayed too much already.

The United States and their lackeys in some Latin American countries preach political representation as a sign of democracy. We all know how elections are handled all over the continent and also how those who have the economic power determine to a great extent the dominant ideology. Here in Panama, without even going to elections, citizens can teach lessons in direct democracy. If "Tony" Noriega is designated by the National Assembly of Corregimientos, thousands of Panamanians will back that decision in the streets, with or without rifles.

"Tony" Noriega has to take the reigns of the country's government if we want a new Republic. This new revolutionary state, for historical reasons, must be much better than the one created in 1903, with Teddy Roosvelt's support and conspiracy. The 1903 state was born castrated by the genuflection of the recently-born Panamanian oligarchic class. This time around the Panamanian patriots will be aware that he who loves his fatherland dies for it and that no war force will be able to kill our unyielding vocation of liberation. No one in this country doubts the honesty and patriotism of President Francisco A. Rodriguez, but the truth is that the country's leadership rests on the shoulders of "Tony" Noriega and the ambiguity surrounding national authority and power is not good because of the war situation caused by the government of U.S. President George Bush. In similar situations in history, peoples have always followed the leadership of a man who is shrewd, astute, brave, and quick-thinking, and who is a good decision-maker when the moment of truth arrives.

It is not "Tony" Noriega who wants direct control. It is the people and its organizations who demand his patriotic leadership because they know that in him they have found their true leader; he who is willing to go all the way. It is that way because the Panamanian people will take a step forward if their leaders are up front, and "Tony" Noriega has demonstrated many times over that Panama's total liberation is not begged for but demanded. "Tony" Noriega has demonstrated this alongside those men who belong to the people that make up the Defense Forces, the Dignity Battalions, the CODEPADI [Committees for the Defense of the Fatherland and Dignity], and the thousands of workers, peasants, students, and honest professionals.

"Tony" Noriega: The peoples' mandate is that you take up the the heroic role that circumstances demand. You cannot avoid that responsibility. To do so would be a mistake we would all pay dearly for. Those of us who are committed to giving our lives for Panama demand this of you. The masses will ratify in a great peoples' plebiscite your appointment as head of government.

Castilla Bravo Confirmed in Legislative Post

PA2411232589 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 13 Nov 89 p 36

[Text] A note that the executive branch has sent to Justo Castilla Bravo, through Deputy Presidency Minister Luis Carlos Amado Arosemena, states: "Because of the circumstances of the Panamanian state, it has become necessary for you to once again assume the duties of secretary general of the legislative branch."

In early October Castilla Bravo temporarily assumed the post of provisional secretary general of the legislative branch which, as is common knowledge, is undergoing a period of transition until the new legislators are appointed. While in the post Castilla Bravo has greatly improved the organization and discipline of the staff and has upgraded the condition of the Justo Arosemena Palace, which must be in good working condition for the inauguration of parliament.

The official note that the deputy presidency minister sent to Castilla Bravo ends by saying: "...you are hereby confirmed in the post that you so capably hold in the administrative structure of the legislative branch."

Government Minister Tours Television Station

PA2611025189 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Nov 89

[Text] Interested in maintaining direct contact with the media, Government and Justice Minister Renato Perreira visited the installations of Televisora Nacional Channel 2 on 21 November. Our General Director Julio Ortega Coronado was present and gave him a tour of the television facilities. The minister took the occasion to

state that Televisora Nacional has been and is a bastion of loyalty for and defense of our national dignity and sovereignty. He stated that these attributes have not arisen simply now that we are attacked by the world's most powerful army, but have always been present in our work. Matters of national interest, he added, are given priority by all our firm's employees.

The government and justice minister also talked to Televisora Nacional General Manager Alejandro Ayala. He expressed his approval for the work done by Channel 2 in reporting information about our national reality. He called the work good and said that it countered U.S. aggressions and misinformation reaffirming the Panamanians' veritable position of not taking a step backward in the defense of the fatherland, even at the cost of our lives.

Minister Announces Libyan Support for Health Plan

PA2611033389 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 23 Nov 89 p 5

[From the "Scoops" column]

[Text] An old adage says: "When one door closes, 1,000 doors open up." That has finally happened to small yet courageous Panama. The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has pledged to fully support Panama's health program, as Health Minister Dr Jose Renan Esquivel announced yesterday. Moreover, Dr Esquivel was declared a distinguished guest by that country. Dr Esquivel took advantage of his visit to sign a bilateral agreement and to increase relations with the friendly country.

Argentina

Menem Meets With FMLN, Leaves for Paraguay

PY2711170689 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Before leaving for Paraguay, President Carlos Menem met with members of the Salvadoran Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN]. Silvina Martinez Porta, who was covering the presidential departure from the Jorge Newbery Airport, will give us further details:

[Martinez Porta] Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo has confirmed that President Carlos Menem met at the metropolitan airport with members of the FMLN, a Salvadoran extremist group which at this moment is fighting the Salvadoran Army. A previous meeting was held Friday, 24 November. This was confirmed a few minutes ago by Foreign Minister Cavallo before departing for Paraguay with President Menem.

[Begin Cavallo recording] We met with FMLN members on Friday, and again just now. They made proposals on what Argentina can do to achieve peace in El Salvador. We are analyzing these reports, and eventually we will adopt a decision. For the time being, we are limited to talks to learn the objectives of our visitors. [end recording]

Cavallo has thus confirmed the second meeting President Menem held with FMLN members at the metropolitan airport.

President Menem's visit to Paraguay will last 26 hours. He will return tomorrow afternoon. During this visit, he will meet with his Paraguayan counterpart Andres Rodriguez and will sign a number of agreements.

At the same time, the two foreign ministers will also hold similar meetings. Foreign Minister Cavallo reported at the airport that they will sign cooperation agreements in the commercial and energy sectors. Regarding the energy sector, there will be an exchange of electricty for gas, on terms different from the previous agreements, Cavallo said.

They will also talk about binational projects of interest to the two countries. Concerning electricity, Cavallo added that they have practically agreed upon some basic points for exchange of electricity with Paraguay. He said that this will be very important to solve the energy crisis in Argentina.

The other bilateral agreement to be signed with Argentina is the elimination of taxes for a list of products that will be jointly drawn up as soon as possible by Argentina and Paraguay, Cavallo added. During the first stage, Argentina will exchange products with Paraguay, and later Paraguay will gradually increase this exchange with Argentina.

Maritime Communications Ban With UK Abrogated

PY2711204289 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2025 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Nov (NA) — The ban on Argentine vessels docking in United Kingdom ports was abrogated today by a Maritime and River Transport Under Secretariat resolution.

The decision comes within the framework of the agreements that were reached by Argentine and British delegations during the Madrid summit that was held on 17-19 October.

One of the reciprocal agreements reached in the Spanish capital was to resume maritime communications between the two countries that fought the Malvinas war.

The under secretariat indicates that "with this measure, a new step has been made to overcome the differences between the two countries and to resume mutually beneficial trade.

The resolution, No 118/89, is written on paper with the letterhead of the Public Works and Services Ministry.

Minister Luder, Chief of Staff View Army Issues

PY2711220589 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] This morning, Defense Minister Italo Luder downplayed the fact that supporters of Mohamed Seineldin and Aldo Rico exercised in public in Lujan last week. Luder stressed that it has nothing to do with the problem in the Army, which ended after the advent of a government that has sought solutions and is still seeking them.

A self-styled dignity battalion reportedly gathered at a farm in Lujan, 70 km from the federal capital, to undertake unarmed military training on 21 November. Some news media regarded this action as a show of force.

The defense minister is observing an exercise by the Santa Barbara Integrated Automatic Artillery System at III Corps. The exercise includes the firing of large-caliber cannons with an advanced computerized system that was developed entirely in our country.

The exercise is being observed by the III Corps commander, other military commanders, and national and provincial authorities.

General Juan Caceres, Army chief of staff, reiterated that he opposes the creation of an antidrug paramilitary force. Although he admitted that such a decision falls under the exclusive jurisdiction of the executive branch, he noted that such an armed force could turn into a secret organization that could jeopardize the stability of institutions or interfere with the people's or government's political activities.

He said, however, that a small agency could be created for coordinating the antidrug activities of the police and security forces, which are sufficiently equipped and trained.

After pointing out that the military problem is over, Gen Caceres said: What we cannot tolerate is violence and threats, especially threats from a parallel power, because no army can tolerate it. One of the concerns of the commanders—my comrades of the Armies of the Americas—is the complete restoration of the chain of command in the Army.

Caceres concluded by saying that the Army is totally subordinate to the government, and he added: We see that the Armed Forces commander in chief is very willing to solve the problems affecting the Army, within the limitations that all of us know.

Border Police Expel Illegal Brazilian Residents

PY2811001189 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1946 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Nov (TELAM)—Some 250 Brazilians who were illegally exploiting resources of government-owned land in Misiones Province have been expelled by border police, who acted in coordination with the National Border Superintendancy.

The incident gave rise to a strong protest by the Argentine Foreign Ministry. The Argentine courts began "a thorough investigation" "to find out who sponsored the illegal occupation of land," Border Superintendent Juan Jose Alvarez said today.

Brazil

Brizola's PDT, PCB, PSDB To Support Lula

PY2711133689 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] The PDT [Democratic Workers Party] will support Luis Inacio da Silva, also known as Lula, candidate of the Popular Brazil Front [Frente Brazil Popular], in the second round of the elections. This decision was adopted at a party convention held in Rio de Janeiro, headed by former presidential candidate Leonel Brizola.

Former Rio de Janeiro Governor Leonel Brizola has convinced the 3,000 delegates who participated in the national PDT congress to support the candidacy of Luis Inacio da Silva in the runoff elections, to defeat PRN [National Reconstruction Party] candidate Fernando Collor. The congress was held at the Rio de Janeiro Convention Center, and lasted 10 and ½ hours.

Brizola said that, regarding this support, he and his followers will be as loyal as possible. The former governor told the conventioneers that politics is very disgusting. He then quoted a statement by former President Getulio Vargas saying: Those who believe that they have defeated us are mistaken. We are going to respond with a victory.

The PSDB [Brazilian Social Democratic Party] will also support candidate Luis Inacio Lula da Silva in the runoff elections. However, the party's participation in the campaign will depend on negotiations regarding the PT government program, and on the end of the veto on PSDB leaders.

The support for Lula was decided at a national PSDB board meeting that lasted more than 8 hours this past weekend here in Brasilia. Senator Fernando Henrique Cardoso, main PSDB negotiator, asked the national board members for the creation of a great democratic front. [recorded passage indistinct]

Of the 27 states, Acre was the only state not represented at that meeting. The position of the other representatives was the same: repudiation of the candidacy of Collor de Mello and rejection of any veto of names proposed by the PSDB. The representatives strongly confirmed their support for Lula.

This week, the Brazilian Communist Party [PCB] will begin distributing pamphlets supporting PT candidate Luis Inacio Lula da Silva. The pamphlet will include a summary of the resolutions approved at the PCB national convention, which has formalized the party's support for Lula. The resolutions stress what the communists expect from the PT and its proposals for the country.

Colombia

Avianca Crash Examined; Cause Not Yet Known

Looting of Site Reported

PA2711153489 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1505 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Report by Eduardo Carrillo]

[Text] Helicopters from the National Police and the Civil Aeronautics Commission are currently on their way back from the place where an Avianca HK-1803 plane crashed and split into four pieces. It was Avianca's 727 jet. They made a reconnaissance flight of the area.

Meanwhile, the secret police—the F-2 of the National Police—are obtaining samples to determine if it was indeed a terrorist attack.

There is a serious situation being reported by the National Police. Thieves arrived at the crash site before the police and have looted the bodies of the 101 passengers and 6 crew members.

It was officially reported here in Bogota that the Captain Jose Ignacio Ossa; Copilot Fernando Pizarro; Flight Engineer Jairo Castiblanco; and crew members German Pereira, Astrid Gomez, and Rita Galvez were killed in the crash.

Civil Aeronautics Investigates

PA2711171189 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1515 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Excerpt] A special Civil Aeronautics commission began investigations to determine the cause of an explosion onboard an Avianca plane that resulted in the death of 107 passengers.

The aircraft plunged to the ground 4 minutes after taking off from El Dorado airport bound for Cali.

Parts of the plane fell over a farm near the municipality of (Suatcha), approximately 22 km from Bogota. Here is a report by Monica Rodriguez from the site of the accident.

[Begin recording] [Rodriguez] At this time Civil Defense, Red Cross, police, Dijim [Directorate of Judicial Police and Investigations], various government agencies, and of course the DAS [Administrative Department of Security] are coordinating actions here, where human remains are being placed in plastic bags. We can see people gathered near what is left of the bodies, which will be placed in plastic bags and obviously taken to the morgue, where they will be analyzed.

However, the bodies must be identified first. This has not been easy as the identification documents are far from the bodies, which are scattered all over the area.

We are close to the debris of the plane, and from here we can clearly see the aircraft number—1803—printed on part of the plane, which of course was completely burned.

You have heard the account of a witness who saw the plane as it fell. He said that there were two explosions, a small one initially, followed by a strong one. This is a new piece of information in the investigation that is being conducted.

An official source reported that the plane did not make contact with El Dorado's control tower. In other words, the pilot did not have time to report any mechanical failure experienced by the plane. This will be clarified later in the investigation. This information was given to us by an official source who obviously asked not to be identified. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Police Chief Comments

PA2711180089 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1707 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Interview with Colonel Gustavo Leal Perez, Cundinamarca Department National Police commander, by unidentified reporter; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Leal] That was the plane going to the city of Cali. It left at 0730 from El Dorado Airport. According to residents in El Charquito and Soacha, the plane exploded in the air at 0745. According to the passenger list, there were 101 passengers and 6 crew members. No one survived. As you have seen, the bodies were dispersed over a radius of approximately three km. The authorities are now identifying the bodies. A National Police technical team is trying with every means available to find evidence to try to determine exactly what happened with the plane. We have not yet seen any indications that this is the result of a criminal attack. Once we have the report from the National Police technicians, the relevant communique will be issued, but as of now we have found nothing that can lead us to say that it was a criminal attack.

[Reporter] Peasants in the region said the plane exploded and then split into four pieces.

[Leal] We have heard that the plane blew up, but you know that planes use high octane fuel, so we cannot speculate as to what really happened until the technicians tell us what actually happened with the plane.

[Reporter] There were reports that there were members of the National Police on the plane.

[Leal] There were two retired officers from the National Police and one Army officer.

[Reporter] Was there a pilot from the National Police?

[Leal] He was a retired officer. His name was Lieutenant Ruiz, who had retired from the National Police.

[Reporter] Do we know anything about [word indistinct]?

[Leal] We have not found it. We have not found the black box yet. They told us it could possibly be near where the plane's tail fell to the ground, but we have not found it. We hope we can find it where the plane first hit the ground, but we have not found it yet.

'Extraditables' Claim Doubted

PA2711225289 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2130 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Bogota, 27 Nov (EFE)—Police sources have described the anonymous telephone call to Radio Cadena Caracol blaming "The Extraditables" drug-trafficking group for the explosion on board an Avianca Boeing 727 as "lacking credibility." The plane was on a flight from Bogota to Cali with 107 persons aboard. The anonymous caller said that "The Extraditables" had planted a bomb on that plane because "five informers" were aboard.

However, police sources consulted by EFE were skeptical, describing what the anonymous caller had said as lacking credibility. Another police source told EFE that the anonymous phone call blaming "The Extraditables" for the explosion sounded more like a joke in bad taste. He added that the call does not follow the normal pattern used by that group when claiming responsibility for its actions. The group usually sends communiques to the media. These communiques are written on paper with

the group's letterhead and are duly signed, and at times include the fingerprints of those responsible for sending the communique.

A spokesperson at El Dorado International Airport in Bogota, where the plane took off, said that it was practically impossible for someone to have evaded the strict security at the airport. The source added that the passengers and the luggage underwent routine but rigorous security checks. These security checks include hand checks and the use of electronic equipment and explosives-detecting dogs. The source added that nothing unusual was noticed.

"The Extraditables" is an armed group under the Medellin Cartel that for the past 6 years has been fighting the extradition of Colombians to the United States. Until now, the crimes that the group has claimed responsibility for, and others for which it is blamed, have all fallen under the category of selective murders— never an indiscriminate attack like destroying a plane.

Civil Aeronautics Directorate sources said that the black box has been found and that its contents will probably reveal what happened.

The sources added that 8 hours after the tragedy, there are still no clues that would allow them to be absolutely sure whether this was an attack or an accident.

Most of the passengers on board the plane were government and private businessmen who were traveling from Bogota to Cali, in the southeastern sector of the country, for business purposes.

Flight Recorders Recovered

PA2711200389 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1937 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Report by Pedro Fuquen from El Dorado International Airport in Bogota]

[Text] Good afternoon. Colombian Civil Aeronautics has just informed this radio station that the two flight recorders, both the one that records the plane's equipment status, and the voice recorder that contains the pilots' statements during flight's last few minutes before the plane crash—the so-called black box—have been found at the crash site.

Civil Aeronautics added that the recorders will be brought to El Dorado airport within the next few minutes to examine their readings, which will be done here in Colombia and abroad.

Civil Aeronautics said that a full investigation of the accident of the HK-1803, 727 airliner, in which 107 people died, will begin with this evidence and the instruments that have been found in the area of the disaster.

World Bank Official Killed

PA2711165889 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1542 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Report by Jairo Ortiz Campos from Valle del Cauca Department]

[Text] Salvadoran citizen Miguel Diaz, a World Bank consultant who died in today's Avianca airline crash, was expected this morning in Cali by Valle del Cauca Department officials to conduct several visits to the department's electricity projects. Officials of Cali's municipal enterprises confirmed that the Word Bank representative was to have stayed 3 days in this city to meet with executives of the CVC, Regional Autonomous Corporation of the Cauca Valley. Norma Triana and Roberto Rodriguez, other members of a IDB [Inter-American Development Bank] mission to which Miguel Diaz belonged, also perished in the crash.

U.S. President Bush To Visit in February

PA2711174189 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1726 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] This radio station has just confirmed that U.S. President George Bush will visit Colombia during the coming February.

President Bush called his Colombian counterpart Virgilio Barco today and confirmed that he will visit Colombia during the coming February.

Attorney General's Comments on Military Explained

PA2611160689 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] Bogota—Attorney General Alfonso Gomez Mendez has asserted that relations between the Attorney General's Office and the Armed Forces are excellent; he added that some Armed Forces members may be guilty of disorderly conduct, but this does not mean that the Army and the police are corrupt.

The attorney general met with Armed Forces Commander General Nelso Mejia Henao at the CAN [not further identified] and said that a statement that he recently made concerning the Armed Forces being infiltrated had been misinterpreted. The information was presented in such a way as to imply that he had said all of the Army had been infiltrated.

What I said was that, given the prevailing high degree of criminality, the ideal thing would be to spare the Army from any degree of corruption; military commanders are exerting themselves to the utmost and they have waged a struggle, which the country knows about, and have attained positive results, the attorney general emphasized.

Ecuador

Cordovez Deplores Salvadoran-Nicaraguan Rift

PA2811025389 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez deplores the rupture of relations between Nicaragua and El Salvador, because the Central American peace process currently needs the participation of all the countries. The important thing is for Central Americans to solve their own problems without foreign interference, Cordovez said; adding that he hopes the U.S. and USSR presidents will talk about this critical issue during their upcoming meeting in Malta.

[Begin recording] [Cordovez] I think it is deplorable that relations between El Salvador and Nicaragua have been interrupted at this moment, because a joint plan is involved. The Arias Plan is a plan which involves all the countries and it demands the cooperation of all the countries. It also demands the political willingness of all the countries, not only the countries that have signed the agreement, but also other countries whose contributions might benefit the peace plan.

Consequently, the important thing is for those countries to continue talking, as they did in Esquipulas II and in Tela. They must talk and make the necessary adjustments to the peace process. If two countries interrupt their diplomatic relations, this will complicate the process.

I hope that the Central Americans' constructive spirit, which they have proved in the past....[changes thought] I remember the time when there was a war between El Salvador and Honduras. The Central American Common Market's process continued; the ministers continued to meet and participate in the process, leaving aside other issues. Naturally, this is much more complicated and more profound, but perhaps that historical example will help them continue participating in the talks, even if they do not have diplomatic relations.

[Reporter] What is your opinion about this?

[Cordovez] There are always charges and countercharges. I have always thought that it is useless to try to ascertain who did what. The important thing now is to stop sending weapons to whoever....[changes thought] There are enough weapons in that country to annihilate an incredible amount of human beings. I believe that the important thing is for the two sides....[changes thought] You know that a fiery debate is currently under way in the United States concerning the shipment of weapons to El Salvador.

[Reporter] The leadership ...

[Cordovez, interrupting] I believe that the debate is constructive because it can help change the whole attitude on this issue. [end recording]

Paraguay

Argentine President Arrives on Official Visit

PY2711163289

[Editorial Report] Asuncion Red Nacional de Television at 1529 GMT on 27 November carries live from the Silvio Petirossi international airport the arrival of Argentine President Carlos Saul Menem and his delegation on an official visit to Paraguay.

The Argentine president and his high-ranking Argentine delegation, which includes Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo, are welcomed at the airport by Paraguayan President Andres Rodriguez along with other high-ranking Paraguayan Government officials.

After the playing of the Argentine and Paraguayan national anthems, President Menem is honored with a 21-gun salute. He is then handed the key to the city of Asuncion by Asuncion Mayor Jose Luis Alder and the chairman of the Asuncion city council.

Menem then introduces the members of his entourage, and President Rodriguez presents the high-ranking Paraguayan Government officials to the visiting president.

After Menem and Rodriguez review the troops, they salute school children who are at the airport to greet the visiting dignitary. Speaking briefly to the local press, Menem expresses his joy over his visit to Paraguay, which reasserts the regional integration process.

Menem and Rodriguez then board a presidential limousine and leave the airport for the Yacht and Golf Club where Rodriguez will host a luncheon in honor of the Argentine president.

'Reaching Boiling Point' Within Ruling Party

PY2711201089 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 27 Nov 89 pp 10, 11

[Excerpt] The political atmosphere within the ruling Colorado party is reaching the boiling point, and we are entering the final stages prior to the extraordinary party convention scheduled for 2 December. Bernardino Cano Radil announced yesterday that the MOPOCO [Colorado Popular Movement], the ADECO [Colorado Democratic Action], the Ethical movement, the Traditionalist Riquelimstas faction, and the Intermediary Generation, all of which are democratic sectors of the Colorado party, will hold a march on 1 December. Cano Radil added that some 30,000 to 50,000 Colorado Party members will march in front of Colorado party headquarters to protest the holding of the party convention. The march will also reassert their support for the democratic process promoted by the government and the democratization of the party. Cano Radil said that Colorado party members will come from all over the country to participate in the march that will end at the Plaza Uruguaya.

According to political observers, this will be a political week filled with doubts and uncertainties, because the different Colorado party factions have been unable to reach an agreement that would obviate holding the extraordinary convention scheduled for 2 December. This party convention may result in a split within the ruling party.

Negotiations between the traditionalist "orthodox" sector and the "democratic" sectors, which sought to achieve an agreement before the party convention, have failed because of the intransigent position adopted by some representatives of the "hawk" Colorado faction, which is represented by Edgar L. Ynsfran and Angel Roberto Seifart. This was reported last week after Blas N. Riqueleme, the leader of the "Democratic Alliance," met with Juan R. Chaves in his residence to try to achieve a consensus on the list of Colorado party board members.

However, Colorado party members from all groups will try everything to avoid a definitive rupture. A party spokesman has reported that they will meet again with Juan R. Chaves, Colorado party chief and leader of the traditionalist "orthodox" faction. They condition an eventual resumption of negotiations to the exclusion of Edgar L. Ynsfran whom they blame for the party division.

After his meeting with Chaves, Blas N. Riquelme said that the orthodox faction continued to hold a stubborn position and that "we have not advanced a single centimeter toward a consensus."

If nothing is achieved this week, the "democratic" factions (MOPOCO, Ethical Movement, ADECO, the Intermediate Generation and the Riquelme-led faction) will block the convention on 2 December by relying on the one third of the conventioneers vote that they allegedly control. Therefore, the "orthodox" plan to reform the party board and the party statutes will become unviable. [passage omitted]

Orthodox Faction Split Rumored

PY2711203389 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 27 Nov 89 p 6

[Text] The persistent rumors that Juan Ramon Chaves, the president of the Colorado Party board, and Luis Maria Argana, the Colorado Party board's first vice president, have "left" the hard-line wing of the traditionalist faction may have been proven by the fact that neither of them attended the rally that the orthodox faction held at Crucecita Park in the city of Pilar.

It had been announced that Chaves and Argana would attend this event, along with Edgar L. Ynsfran and Angel Roberto Seifart. The latter two attended the meeting, but the first two did not.

Rumors about a rupture within the leadership of the orthodox faction began to circulate this week. These rumors indicate that the orthodox faction has split into an "extreme hardline" position (headed by Ynsfran and Seifart) and a more moderate position (headed by Chaves and Argana).

Peru

Garcia Comments on Salvadoran-Nicaraguan Break

PY2711210389 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 27 Nov 89

[News conference by President Alan Garcia at Government House in Lima—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Reporter] Mr President, we would like to know your opinion about the break in diplomatic relations between Nicaragua and El Salvador.

[Garcia] I believe that this decision by the government of President Cristiani will not help the peace process in Central America.

Peru appeals for an end to the hostilities that have already claimed so many civilian lives. We still hope that dialogue will be the key to a solution.

We do have to say, however, that despite its limitations, there was a democratic election in El Salvador. The winner was a rightist, conservative government. We may not agree with the political stand of such a government, but we have to respect the results of a democratic election.

I believe that the majority of the Salvadoran people also respect the new government. [passage omitted]

Minister Says Reporter Was Sold to Traffickers

PY2711205889 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Interior Minister Agustin Mantilla today confirmed recent press reports stating that terrorists sold out U.S. journalist Todd Smith to drug traffickers. He added that they charged the Medellin cartel $50,000 for Smith.

* Liberty Movement Official Discusses Fredemo

90ET0024A Lima EL NACIONAL in Spanish 1 Oct 89 pp 31-35

[Interview with Liberty Movement official Miguel Cruchaga Belaunde by Sergio Oquendo Heraud: "I Have Always Been a Populist"; date and place not given. First three paragraphs are EL NACIONAL introduction]

[Excerpts] Miguel Cruchaga Belaunde is an architect and a politician, like former President Fernando Belaunde Terry [FBT], his uncle. He is one of the "major figures" of the Liberty Movement. A graduate of the College of Santa Maria de Lima and of the Faculty of Architecture of the UNI [National Engineering University], Miguel Cruchaga is 49 years old. He has been married for 24 years. He entered political life in 1960 at the age of 21 when he was elected president of the Student Federation of the UNI (ACUNI) [National Engineering University Centers Association], despite belonging to a faculty with 200 students in a university with 5,000 students. He ran as an independent candidate and won his victory against

the candidate of the Left who, as was usually the case at that time, had the support of Popular Action [AP].

Such a paradox was not to be repeated: in 1962 he entered the populist movement and then became the director of the National Secretariat of Youth. The following interview was held in what was an architect's study, now converted into a political operations center, where the continuous ringing of the telephone was to accompany us during a 2-hour conversation.

In the interview this leader of the Liberty Movement spoke to us of his transition to liberalism and of the difficulties in establishing in Peru a neoliberal regime with two traditional parties and with the creole business class in power. He also spoke of the limited participation of people from outside the traditional social structure in the Fredemo [Democratic Front], of its concept of parallelism—together but with the different elements keeping their separate identities—of the ideological differences with Hernando de Soto, the liberal patriarch of the country, and of the ILD [Freedom and Democracy Institute], among other subjects. [passage omitted]

[EL NACIONAL] Let us talk about the state. The Liberty Movement has proposed a reduction in the scope of its activities. Nevertheless, spokesmen of AP recently have said that they are more inclined to reorganize the structure of the state. How can these two positions be compatible?

[Cruchaga] In the first place, there is some confusion about two points in the program which cover privatization and a reduction in the role of the state. There are some people who, when they speak of a reduction, mean that this partly means privatization, that is, taking a series of activities out of the range of state authority. Then they think that privatization exonerates them from having a simultaneous reduction in the role of the state. They fear that such a reduction implies reducing the power of the state to provide essential services. It is necessary to clear up this confusion. Privatization is one thing, and the reduction of state activity as such is something else. Regarding privatization, there is full agreement in the Democratic Front. Despite this agreement, a reduction in the range of state activities is still something like a pending question.

There are some points which I would like to set out in detail. Such as, the state grows as a function of the pressure exercised by its political clientele. This question brings us to the need for administrative simplification, since an excessive number of officials have to justify their presence in office. And they do this through the morass of existing procedures. In dealing with this problem we think that there is no simplification possible if it does not involve a reduction in functions. And there will be no reduction in functions if there is not a reduction in the number of personnel. That part of the reduction in state functions is the most controversial, since it generates concern over unemployment. And in dealing with that we must be calm and look at the problem with the necessary social sensitivity to avoid creating sudden unemployment.

However, at the same time we must not allow this situation to continue. Therefore, I think that we should deal with the problem in an imaginative way and look at the two aspects at the same time. One solution is to have people work in the public administration in shifts and have the public service open for business until late at night on the basis of not duplicating functions but rather of providing alternatives for service to the public. One extreme proposal was the idea that one sector of the bureaucracy should stay home while still collecting a salary. In this way greater efficiency would be obtained, and there would be significant savings for the state by reducing the goods and services consumed by administrative services. What must not be done is to use the possible consequences resulting from a reduction in the number of public servants as a trick to distract the voters, since such action would result in the consolidation of a situation which is bringing us to the edge of an abyss.

[EL NACIONAL] Essentially, then, the difference between the Liberty Movement and Popular Action relates to reducing the scope of state activity.

[Cruchaga] Popular Action has not yet expressed its considered point of view as an institution regarding this situation. What has happened is that some spokesmen of AP have said what you mentioned, while there are others who are more responsive to the point of view of MVLL [Mario Vargas Llosa]. Therefore, there is no fully developed position within that political group. On the other hand the processes within Fredemo and the formulation of its program are evolutionary in nature. We have not yet reached agreement on all points. However, we are working on that. Nevertheless, I can tell you that the idea of a reduction in the scope of state activity is one of the principal points on which the political life of MVLL is based. And it is going to be very difficult to have a compromise regarding them.

The Ghost of the 500,000

[EL NACIONAL] Reducing the scope of state activity means dismissing 500,000 employees?

[Cruchaga] No, I do not think so. As I have explained to you, we must look for imaginative ways of keeping the surplus officials within the state apparatus, without their presence hampering the speed and agility which we wish to give the state.

[EL NACIONAL] Nevertheless, are you telling me that such imaginative and intelligent policies definitely could take care of this group of more than 500,000 government employees?

[Cruchaga] We need to reconsider all of those state services which are provided to the public and in which there is a need for direct contact with the people, for example, in the entire sectors of social security, agriculture, or housing, where the greatest number of employees

are in Lima and whose services are rather limited. We have the possibility of decentralizing personnel assignments from the geographical point of view. This would be in addition to spreading them out from the point of view of their work hours, which I have mentioned.

[EL NACIONAL] Then could we say that you are not going to fire 500,000 employees?

[Cruchaga] I do not think so.

[EL NACIONAL] But in any case you are going to fire a certain number of employees?

[Cruchaga] Let us say that we will try to avoid firing any employee.

Joint Government: A Gentlemen's Agreement

[EL NACIONAL] Let us turn to another question, that of joint government. Is there a risk of watering down neoliberal measures on behalf of AP and the PPC [Popular Christian Party]?

[Cruchaga] Well, the act of governing is linked to the idea of the executive branch of the government. The executive branch is not going to be part of a joint government. The executive branch is going to be the exclusive responsibility of Mario Vargas Llosa and of the Liberty Movement. That is why we have gone over to the idea of proportional representation in parliament, which is not very important for the Liberty Movement, precisely because the legislative branch has an investigatory mission. Therefore, the Liberty Movement is giving ground in this area. Naturally, so that the Liberty Movement can function, there must be a prior agreement, and we are working on that. This has led to the well known tripartite committees which are trying to reach certain agreements, including the minimum, acceptable positions for the various political groups, within the ruling principles of privatization, an increase of competency in the government, and a reduction in the activities of the state.

This agreement will be accepted by all candidates and exposed to the view of public opinion. Consequently, it will create a double commitment. And on the basis of this program MVLL will seek to obtain a mandate through the election. As a result, this mandate will not be a blank check. This mandate is going to be inspired by the confidence which I have in this person to carry out that program. If we succeed in carrying on a campaign in which these two factors are closely linked to each other, I think that there there will be every reason and guarantee of a democratic, ethical, and moral character and that the Fredemo government is certain to take the necessary action to make those changes.

'Without a Parliamentary Majority We Would Go With a Consensus'

[EL NACIONAL] What would happen if MVLL does not obtain a parliamentary majority? Would what happened to FBT in 1963 be repeated?

[Cruchaga] (After thinking silently for a moment) You know that it is unlikely that this will be the situation, since, precisely because of that experience in 1963, the constitution of 1979 gives broader powers to the president. It is also easier to obtain a parliamentary majority. Both FBT and AGP [President Alan Garcia Perez] won parliamentary majorities despite having been elected with less than 50 percent of the vote. As a result, a parliamentary majority is now regarded as strengthening the position of the winner in the presidential race. Previously, there was a mathematical parity between the percentage of votes with which a president was elected and the percentage of seats in parliament. So this situation seems more improbable to me right now. Furthermore, I will admit, no one in Fredemo has thought of that possibility, despite the larger number of scenarios which we have available in the elections campaign. However, if such a situation were to occur, it would force us to go with a consensus. That is, if the mood of the country in the elections is to set down one condition under which the executive would operate, while there is a precarious position in parliament, at that point it would be appropriate to speak of a consensus, and to evolve in the direction of reaching a political agreement which would make possible the continuation of such a situation. However, I repeat, we are not raising that possibility.

[EL NACIONAL] Nevertheless, a consensus which MVLL would probably have limited from the very beginning.

[Cruchaga] Certainly, in such a situation there would be no alternative. However, we are campaigning to ensure that the people will give us the necessary majority to carry out major reforms, without which we are not going to be able to emerge from the deep crisis in which we are plunged. Nevertheless, the inevitability of a consensus under such circumstances would in no way be inconsistent with the validity of the objections which MVLL has expressed regarding a consensus. In a country as full of problems as ours is, going to a committee of doctors to carry out treatment on the basis of the diagnoses of different doctors would not lead to any basic cure. A country can allow itself the luxury of having a government of consensus when it is emerging from a military dictatorship, for example, or when it comes out of a long war. However, a country which is in the full exercise of its democratic vigor requires a clear choice and not treatment which would slow down its recovery.

Liberalization: The Latin American Example

[EL NACIONAL] Senator Ulloa, as he is now, failed in his attempt to liberalize the country in the second FBT government. We know what strong opposition there was in the Armed Forces and among industrialists, both of them pressure groups which favor a statist concept of government. Why do you think that liberalization would be possible now? Would it not be a gamble to support two political parties which failed on a previous occasion?

[Cruchaga] First, let us talk about Ulloa. The development of economic policies in the Latin American spectrum and in the world reflects a dynamic evolution which brings valuable experience. This situation makes the implementation of certain systems more feasible or less possible. During the second FBT government neoliberal options were in embryo form throughout the world. And the fact is that the economic leadership which Doctor Ulloa provided was not very well articulated and solid in all of its aspects. There were several versions of economic policy within that government. To mention only a few of them, there was the version of FBT, who had Keynesian training inspired by the first administration of President Roosevelt in the United States. Ulloa had certain, more modern views which found no support within the government, for which reason a series of compromises had to be reached. Compromises in the field of economics frequently do not work well. Furthermore, economics is not only about applying adequate measures but applying them in an adequate sequence. We have examples of this in the serious reverses which Pinochet's young economic advisers had in Chile.

However, economic development within this kind of orientation is now much clearer and better defined. Furthermore, in a future, Fredemo government there would be consistency between the head of government and those who carry out economic policy. This would make it possible for the government to have greater possibilities for success.

Now, with respect to the success or failure of the Popular Action government, I would like to make a comment. FBT's political actions were highly positive for the country. I think that, seen in perspective, they were broadly favorable. FBT brought to Peru a radical change in the rules of Peruvian politics, through which people who had personal competence and talent similar to his and not because they belonged to certain power circles or the aristocracy acceded to positions of political responsibility. FBT established a democratic opening toward municipal elections, which he restored in 1963 and 1980. He also did an extraordinary job regarding highways, agriculture, etc. He brought in a series of measures of modernization in the field of public service. [passage omitted]

Fredemo-De Soto: An Ideological Struggle

[EL NACIONAL] Then why did the Liberty Movement not go into the elections on its own as a Liberal Party?

[Cruchaga] Well, that is an old story. One reason is the tendency in this country toward diversification, which inevitably brings us to take overall positions which polarize similar positions. Doing the contrary means promoting a kind of atomization and confusing the voter, who feels that he is forced to choose between alternatives whose only difference is personal or circumstantial. As Popper says, democracy can only continue when it finds a synthesis between two or three alternatives.

The second reason is as follows: when we began to work in the Liberty Movement, we believed then, and we continue to believe, that the most important thing to do is to develop a good plan of government and make a great effort to present our ideological and program views to the people. And we should not waste our time structuring a new political apparatus, when the already existing political apparatus can be used. In this way we would become the introducers of new thinking in the existing political apparatus. Nevertheless, the evolution of events has shown us that certain inconveniences, certain misunderstandings, and some disagreements made it necessary to set up the Liberty Movement, which has ceased to be the ideological and programmatic command center which we initially thought of. As far as that is concerned, this is a circumstance which we had no way of anticipating.

[EL NACIONAL] Your detailed explanation makes it possible for us to gather the impression that basically, between the Liberty Movement, the AP, and the PPC there are related differences. How do you interpret this in the comment by Hernando de Soto that the ideas of MVLL are only shared by very small groups within Fredemo?

[Cruchaga] Well, Hernando is an intellectual whose central preoccupation is ideology. Any person who has a very strong attraction for the world of ideas tends to become something similar to what happens to theologians, who are very strict in judging what they see as deviations from the truth. Nevertheless, I do not believe that in political as well as religious life interest in purely ideological concepts is substantial. I think that the most important thing is that among the most senior leaders, in this case MVLL, there has been a very clear training process which has taken shape in government programs.

[EL NACIONAL] What concerns De Soto, the unquestionable father of Peruvian liberalism from whom the Liberty Movement has drawn many of its views, is the kind of antiliberal refuge into which Fredemo has been converted. This has resulted in a serious conflict within Fredemo. I would ask you, as a senior representative of Fredemo, to explain to us something about this alleged incompatibility between the ideas of some of its leaders and the inclusion in the front of persons who are openly antiliberal.

[Cruchaga] It is always very easy to speak in the abstract. I do not see those internal contradictions. It seems to me that such a view is from the outside, to a large extent. I think that it does not bear much resemblance to what is happening, in fact. I should say, on the other hand, that the basic concept of the Liberty Movement cannot be reduced to repeating the program of the ILD.

There have been many contributions to our thinking on the political struggle in Peru which have nothing to do with the ILD. This is the case with the situation of the squatters in the countryside, the reconsideration of the

agrarian reform program, the export model of the countries of Southeast Asia, and the denunciation of the fraudulent nature of the Marxist system—a matter which the ILD has always avoided—among other things.

Furthermore, MVLL seeks to speak for a coherent and uncompromising front. From the beginning, yes, he has proposed a front, but a front to carry out from above all three of the objectives: Privatization, an increase in competency in government, and a reduction in the role of the state. And all of those who have entered Fredemo have done so, knowing that no compromise is possible on that model. That intransigence is different from that of the ILD which, when FBT was president, proposed some services to him and, with Dr Garcia as president, proposed others. Or it may be that, on the part of the ILD, there is a greater willingness to compromise on its work and on the way to put in practice the results of its studies than in the position of MVLL who presents his proposals as matters on which no concessions are possible.

[EL NACIONAL] In short you do not accept the presence of conservatives in the leadership of Fredemo.

[Cruchaga] Look, I am not telling you that there are no conservatives. What I want to say is that entry into the Liberal Movement does not mean abandoning a given way of thinking. However, at the same time it does imply accepting certain ideas.

Mercantilist Businessmen and the Liberal Project

[EL NACIONAL] Let us talk about businessmen. It is unquestionable that many of the businessmen who support Fredemo are mercantilists. Dr Enrique Ghersi, your own associate, has said that all of us are mercantilists to a certain extent. Is a liberal revolution possible in Peru against the mercantilists, that is, against those who live on the favor of the state and not on the basis of economic competence?

[Cruchaga] I do not think that a majority of the mercantilists support this liberal revolution. Enrique used that phrase for the purpose of not appearing to be morally self-sufficient, of being free of guilt. That is like saying that at some point we are all sinners. The mercantilists are not in the Liberty Movement, we do not have them among our leaders, and it is probable that they are very busy prowling around the power circles in the present government. A great deal is said about the support provided by Confiep [National Confederation of Private Business] to Fredemo. I have no particular suspicions regarding Confiep. I do not think that it should subject itself to torture or anything similar to that. I do not wish to be misunderstood. However, I do not know where they get that allegation of collaboration. There is no collaboration between Confiep and Fredemo. It happens that in the Liberty Movement there are two people who have held senior positions in the businessmen's association and that at that time they collaborated in a more or less marginal way. These persons are Rafael Villegas and Ricardo Vega Llona, who, I feel, are not exactly like the four horsemen of the apocalypse of mercantilism.

[EL NACIONAL] Let us not talk about the names of specific persons. Let us talk about something which is unquestionable: The existence of mercantilist businessmen who are part of the social base of Fredemo. And it is known that the liberalizing policies which the Fredemo would implement would strike hard at a very broad group of Peruvian industrialists. So it is proper to ask oneself to what extent a liberal restructuring of the country is possible when one of its supporters would find himself affected by a liberal-style government.

[Cruchaga] Well, I have not read the study by the ILD and, at this point, I do not have enough information to answer such a question with any assurance. What I am telling you is that our commitment is to end the monopolies and oligopolies as soon as we see that this is what they are. And we are not accepting any commitment to the businessmen's group to save their lives for the sole reason that they support us. I can assure you of this. Dr MVLL has not interrupted his literary and intellectual career to become simply a political front man for certain Peruvian economic interests. And so that you will not think that we are ingenuous, I will say that it may be that there are mercantilists who, as they are opportunists, are in Fredemo. However, that is not going to obligate us in any way, nor is it a sign of the acceptance of the unspoken opinions which such people may have.

'There Is Only One Informal Leader of the 45 in Liberty'

[EL NACIONAL] Let us talk about the informals. Is it not symptomatic that, within Fredemo, there are no leaders visible who represent the people's businessmen, despite their appearing repeatedly in MVLL's speeches? A moment ago you made a comparison to the selection of a football team. Why not call on one of this immense mass of informal players to join the team selected?

[Cruchaga] Fortunately, contrary to what has happened to those who spoke previously, I have some answers to give you regarding that. For that has certainly been a central concern of mine. As a leader of the Liberty Movement, one of my concerns has been to do that, because I think that this is absolutely essential, both to shape the message, as well as to make the actions of the leaders true and really representative. Therefore, on 9 March 1988 I organized in Huascar the first workshop of business solidarity with businessmen, artisans, and workers outside the traditional economy in San Juan de Lurigancho. The objective was to begin to attract people who might join the Liberty Movement. This first experiment resulted in some initiatives being taken and some leaders brought forward. However, unfortunately, as popular groups go, it happens that, at times, those who are given more opportunity are those who are seeking more government assistance. Then they look to those who are trying to find out what our political grouping has to offer them, seeking above all to relieve the terrible crisis through which they are passing. So despite this early effort and its follow-up, it has not succeeded in establishing an articulate group. There is only one leader

representative of that sector within the national leadership of the Liberty Movement, and that is Juvencio Rojas. However, within a group in which there are 45 leaders I recognize that this is still very little.

I am not satisfied with this result. I have tried to establish contact with the world of businessmen outside the traditional structure and have met with them in the Cafe Haiti in Miraflores on several occasions. This experience has led me to the conclusion that I have to systematize this contact. And we are therefore opening up an office of the Liberty Movement in Avda Tacna exclusively dedicated to such businessmen. It is going to be a local office managed and administered by them, to dynamize the political creativity of this sector in a manner parallel to what our central office is doing. The idea is that out of them will come a representative group which will join the national leadership of the Liberty Movement. [passage omitted]

'The Holy War of Sendero Luminoso'

[EL NACIONAL] There has been discussion within Fredemo of a total war against Sendero Luminoso [Shining Path—SL]. What is your concept of a total war?

[Cruchaga] I think that, behind the phenomenon of Sendero Luminoso, which is a phenomenon expressive of this awakening fury, there is a series of values which must be considered with respect, as well as with a certain desire to appraise the present situation carefully. Sendero has emerged as an intolerably moralistic movement. There is something of the idea of holy war in SL. And I find that it is highly interesting to observe a political movement which brandishes ethical intolerance as one of its arguments, an intolerance in its objective of punishing others, surely not always with wisdom but always brutally.

However, SL has an objective of punishing corruption and immorality in an exemplary way. I think that above all that is painful and arbitrary in the crimes of Sendero, there is a sign of the times which we must understand and not try to avoid. I think that, behind SL, there is at the same time an organizational and disciplinary ability which tells us much about a country like ours. SL has a tenacity which is another sign of the times which we must learn to understand and incorporate into our daily practices. To the extent that the signs with which Sendero warns us are incorporated into political life, those signs will cease being elements which create differences among Peruvians. And we will have taken the first step toward a necessary and possible reconciliation. I think that respect for SL does not mean resorting to total war but to rectifying what caused its emergence, like ignoring the world of the Andes, the absolutely superior power with which metropolitan and Western culture has demolished indigenous cultures and ignored their expectations and needs. Meanwhile, with regard to the maintenance of order, I believe that we have to move toward a well structured intelligence system which will make it possible for us to prevent certain things from happening, rather than to exacerbate the reasons for SL's existence.

[EL NACIONAL] Then you mean that a future Fredemo government would not give a free hand to the Armed Forces.

[Cruchaga] In no way.

[EL NACIONAL] Despite the fact that the Armed Forces would probably be demanding it.

[Cruchaga] Well, but that leads to another Vietnam. One of the best armed forces in the world had a free hand in Vietnam, and look at the disaster which they caused.

[EL NACIONAL] Or perhaps this would lead us into a situation like that in Lebanon, as more than one political observer has pointed out.

[Cruchaga] That is true, and it will not solve the problem. We must take into account the fact that there is a part of the national conscience which Sendero is expressing, and that part must be heard and the lesson assimilated which they are painfully giving us.

The Political Tactlessness of Vargas Llosa

[EL NACIONAL] Recently, MVLL put on in Chile a play whose contents General Parra has denounced as painful for the Armed Forces of Peru. Was this the proper thing to do? Was it wise politically?

[Cruchaga] Look, the fact that MVLL has not been prepared to alter his literary expression for political reasons seems like an honest act to me. That is, he has not stopped doing certain things because they are political when previously, because he was not in politics, he could have done them. I think that in this respect there is an ethical consistency in Mario's attitude which seems to me to be very much worthy of respect.

[EL NACIONAL] Do you consider it an act of political tactlessness?

[Cruchaga] Yes, it could be that it was an act of political tactlessness.

[EL NACIONAL] And do you not also consider that this tactlessness, like that involving the play in Chile or the announcement of the dismissal of 500,000 employees may reflect a lack of political skill which could be dangerous for national life?

[Cruchaga] Political skills have brought us to the present situation, with Sendero Luminoso.

'Nudes Are Not Peruvian Folklore'

[EL NACIONAL] Let us talk about the Liberty Movement meeting. Do you not think that it provided at least a comic contrast that, while the meeting opened with showgirls on the stage, you in your speech spoke of Marcel Proust and Aristotle?

[Cruchaga] The Liberty Movement is a collective effort to find a new form of political expression. There is no rigid structure of authority which organizes everything. Rather, activities are varied, and an opportunity is provided to all. Putting on "El Amauta" [The Indian Sage] was a responsibility assigned to a certain group, and it had the questionable character which it had. In that program I was assigned to make a speech, and I prepared one which seemed relevant to me for the second anniversary of the entry of MVLL into political life. And it seemed appropriate to me to draw a parallel between what the wasted youth of Proust meant and what have been the wasted opportunities of Peru, and just as confronting a great crisis, which was his illness and, consequently, his awareness of the proximity of death, made him react to give shape to that literary work with which he revolutionized novelistic style. I made use of this figure to remind Peru that in the midst of a crisis we should devote ourselves to more serious work in search of time lost.

[EL NACIONAL] This metaphor, which is certainly beautiful, has nothing to do, then, with a kind of educated compensation for the appearance of the showgirls?

[Cruchaga] No, I did not know that there was going to be a show like that. I thought that there was going to be a kind of folkloric presentation, but evidently the Brazilian music and the naked showgirls are not part of Peruvian folklore.

[EL NACIONAL] Something which has also been pointed out is the curious social division within the meeting and which could indicate the political outlook of Fredemo. The characters in "El Amauta" were separated into social classes. The social difference between the box seats—where the invited guests were—and the gallery was obvious. And the area in between was a kind of gray zone. This is an unusual development at political meetings where, at least, it has been the custom to mix the aristocracy and the common people. Why was there so much social stratification?

[Cruchaga] I will explain it to you. The way in which the meeting was organized reflected the nature of the invitation which we extended. That was a Liberty Movement program to which we invited our associates from Fredemo, who were in the box seats. In the galleries were all of the district committees of Lima. There were representatives of the new villages, but also of Miraflores and San Isidro. I recall this clearly, because from where I stood their banners were the most visible. But this observation is very subjective.

'Let Us Demythicize the Shock Business'

[EL NACIONAL] Let us talk about, perhaps, another act of political tactlessness by MVLL. (Cruchaga laughed.) It is about the well known "shock" policy. Enrique Ghersi also has said that it was yours. Will you implement a "shock" policy?

[Cruchaga] Look, we have been suffering intermittently from "shock" policies for several years. In any case, if there should be a "shock," it will be handled technically. I think that this is a matter of political speculation which is being tried out in the press.

[EL NACIONAL] Nevertheless, speculation which people as well qualified as Doctor Ghersi are discussing.

[Cruchaga] I do not know how Enrique can be so sure about that. I am a member of all of the supervisory offices of the Liberty Movement, as he also is, and I have never heard it stated in a definitive way that the "shock" policy is necessary.

[EL NACIONAL] It would seem that on the playing field of the Liberty Movement everyone has his own ball. You do not agree at what goal to shoot.

[Cruchaga] (He laughed.) That is a sign that the word liberty in the name of the Liberty Movement really means what it says. However, in any case, it is a good thing to know that as a function of this trick of "shock," "shock" is the "Black September" of Abel Salinas. Let us demythicize "shock." FBT and AGP have used the "shock" technique. Finally, I think that the person who invented "shock" was Manuel Moreyra with Silva Ruete in 1978, so that "shock" is something which has been worn out by reason of becoming something. In any case, if a policy of this kind is necessary, it should be accompanied by a very wise policy of social compensation, and in Latin America we have instructive examples. It will be necessary to subsidize them, as is the case right now. However, this should be done in a specific way and not involve all of the people and even the neighboring countries, as is being done now.

Large Landholdings: Never Again

[EL NACIONAL] You have spoken of reversing agrarian reform. Is the return of latifundio [large landholdings] possible in Peru if the land goes on the market?

[Cruchaga] No. I think that a country has an obligation to learn its lessons, and latifundio in Peru was one of the long-term evils of society. So we are going to be liberals in general terms, but we cannot be liberals to the extreme of allowing latifundios to be set up of the size which existed in the mountains of Peru. These latifundios produced all of the social contradictions which fill the pages of the history of our country. What I really mean is that with agrarian reform we not only killed agriculture in Peru, that is, we killed the hen that laid the golden eggs. Rather, we did something more serious and which concerns us very much. We decapitated the provincial business and social elites. They were replaced by public officials who received the haciendas as a form of booty. I could spend the afternoon with stories about corruption and immorality. And the only way to break up this kind of corruption is to return to a competitive system. It is because of this kind of social decay that today many of the leaders of Sendero Luminoso are the sons of the former rural bourgeoisie. On the coast the phenomenon

was different. The farmers were able to exchange their bonds for industrial or banking investments. However, in the Andes the punishment was concentrated. That is why today those sons are giving us the same medicine from which they saw their fathers suffer. We must reestablish the managerial elites in the countryside in order to achieve national stability. The agrarian reform did the same thing as a military occupation. The countryside was cut off from its own civilian elite, leaving it weakened and defenseless.

[EL NACIONAL] Then you disagree with Dr Ghersi, for you consider that we should liberalize the countryside, but with some restrictions.

[Cruchaga] That is not the only matter on which I disagree with Enrique.

Uruguay

President-Elect States Objectives for Governing

Seeks Coalition Government

PY2711115489 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0343 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Montevideo, 27 Nov (EFE)—Uruguayan President-elect Luis Alberto Lacalle, member of the opposition National or Blanco Party, today promised "to work with all Uruguayan political and social forces to establish a coalition government.

In this regard, Lacalle said that December, January, and February, "will be key months" to achieve this objective, which will allow "the future Uruguayan Government to function properly."

In a brief statement to the press, Lacalle said he had been congratulated by Argentine President Carlos Saul Menem, with whom he said he had talked over the phone.

The Uruguayan president-elect termed the election of the leftist "Broad Front" candidate as mayor of Montevideo, the Uruguayan capital, a "historic event." Tabare Vazquez, a socialist physician, was elected mayor of Montevideo.

Luis Alberto Lacalle declined to make any further statement before meeting with Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti. Lacalle is scheduled to meet with Sanguinetti this morning, prior to holding a news conference with Uruguayan and foreign journalists.

Comments on Priorities

PY2711145689 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1314 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Nov (TELAM)—Senator Luis Alberto Lacalle, the newly elected Uruguayan president who represents the National (Blanco) Party, has stated that after assuming power he will grant priority to "solving the foreign debt problem", restructuring the state apparatus, and reducing the fiscal deficit.

Lacalle explained he will take "a couple of days, until 4 December" and consult "all national political and social sectors" to seek the establishment of a government coalition.

Lacalle believes it is essential "to face the foreign debt problem and try to seek a solution." He added: "Later we will have to study the restructuring of the state apparatus; study a solution to the fiscal deficit—which is quite large; and also promote investments, a subject that obsesses me."

Asked whether the foreign debt will be paid, Lacalle said:"We will have to arrive at an understanding, because we are not dealing with only one bank." In view of this, they probably "do not share the same opinion". Therefore, "we will deal with each case on an individual basis."

He added that the foreign debt amounts to "$6 billion" and that "it is the largest foreign debt per capita in Latin America.

Speaking to Radio Mitre, Lacalle refused to describe himself as a "conservative." "I dislike labels," he said. He described the victory of leftist sectors—with the election of Tabare Vazquez as mayor of Montevideo—as "a completely new phenomenon that must be taken into account." He added: "We will see what he does as mayor, and we will judge him accordingly."

Suriname

Bouterse Optimistic About Talks With Brunswijk

FL2711214689 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Army Commander Desi Bouterse has described the discussion with terrorist leader Ronny Brunswijk as being positive and expressed optimism about future negotiations.

Bouterse and Brunswijk have last week Tuesday held a 2-hour discussion on a plantation on the Commewijne River. The plantation lies about 50 km northeast of Paramaribo. According to the Army commander, the first discussion with Brunswijk was of an (?exploring) nature. He did not elaborate on the content of the discussion. Bouterse, however, is of the opinion that in future negotiations of peace the traditional authority (?structures) in the interior and the different tribal customs should be considered. Gang leader Brunswijk also expressed optimism about the future discussions.

The chairman of the military authority has last Friday reported to President Ramsewak Shankar about his meeting with Brunswijk. According to Bouterse, the second meeting will take place before the end of this year.

Shankar Assesses Nation on Independence Day

FL2711220089 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] President Ramsewak Shankar has made an urgent call on the Surinamese people not to be incited by others against the government. The president made this call last Saturday in an address on the occasion of the 14th independence celebrations in Suriname. In the speech, the president talked about the development process in Suriname. According to him, international and national developments have weakened the economy in the last year. Shankar has, however, expressed the hope that the developments in the course of the 15th year of independence for Suriname will bring improvement to the economic situation. According to the Surinamese head of state, measures have been taken to guarantee (?aid) for the basic needs on a regular basis. The president further said that the government will not deviate from its [word indistinct] through actions by others. The president finally stated that the government has a strong belief and confidence in the Surinamese people.